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Genealogy & History

FAMILY OF
JACOB and RACHEL BECK DERR

1960 and Preceding Years

by

Earle W. Derr

1960

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S.

Picture of the Jacob and Rachel Derr family. Probably taken about 1870.

Left to right - standing

Names -	Approximate age
Hettie	21 yrs.
George M.	19 yrs.
Josephine (Josie)	15 yrs.
Jacob H.	12 yrs.
Henry F. (Frank)	24 yrs.

Seated

Fianna	26 yrs.
Jacob	56 yrs.
Rachel	52 yrs.

The Derr Bear Swamp farm house that replaced the original log house. The log house stood back of tree at left for a number of years after the house in picture was built. Both are now gone, as is the new house that replaced them. This picture was taken by Alice Derr Hastings about 1924.

The old grade schoolhouse at Boneta where all of the children of Jacob and Rachel Derr attended school as did all of the children of Fianna Derr Orton and Jacob H. Derr. This school was discontinued about 1922 and the building torn down about 1940.
This picture was also taken by Alice Derr Hastings about 1924.

P R E F A C E

For a period of about ten years before his death in 1934, Henry Francis (Frank) Derr, with some help from his brother Jacob, spent considerable time and effort collecting information for a history of their ancestors. This was naturally centered around the family of their parents Jacob Derr and Rachel Beck Derr. During at least part of those years a "Round Robin" letter had been circulated among the families of the six children of Jacob and Rachel which apparently brought forth some information relative to family history but not many definite facts or vital statistics of the early ancestors.

The original undertaking was never fully accomplished but as a substitute Frank Derr personally typed a sixteen-page manuscript to which he gave the title "The Derr Ancestry and Genealogy." Its first two pages tell of the ancestors and of his early life before his parents moved from Pennsylvania to Medina County, Ohio in 1853. The next five pages give a narrative of his own and the family life in Ohio, up to the time he left home in 1867 at the age of twenty. The remaining nine pages contain his autobiography and was completed only a few months before his death in 1934. Wherever I have been able to check the details given about his parents and grandparents only a few minor discrepancies in dates have been found.

Early in 1958 while recuperating from a second heart attack and looking for some project to work at, it occurred to me that I might gather further information from cousins and other sources to make a more complete and up-to-date Derr family history. After being assured of the cooperation of a few of the cousins who were familiar with the earlier efforts and after receiving some of the original details that Uncle Frank had not included because they were not complete, I decided to proceed.

It has taken considerably more time than anticipated and much more time would be required to make it complete, but it has all been very interesting. The fact that much less information is given about some families and individuals than others is not intentional but because more has not been available. After much consideration and consultation it was decided to include with minor revisions the major part of Uncle Frank's manuscript, dividing it into the three sections mentioned above, and to insert them where each fitted best into this present family history.

Thanks must be given to Orline Derr Gilliard, who voluntarily loaned me her father's original copy and also to her sister Vera Derr Jones, for the copy of the German Birth and Baptismal Certificate of our grandfather Jacob Derr, which she voluntarily turned over to me to use as I saw fit. We are grateful, too, for the snap-shot prints loaned by Alice Derr Hastings that show the old "Bear Swamp" farm home of Jacob and Rachel Derr and the old Boneta grade schoolhouse. We are also indebted to the many who have contributed the necessary facts about themselves and their families.

With the hope that some of the younger generation will become sufficiently interested to carry on, I am assembling the information available up to the present time in a loose-leaf form so it can easily be expanded and kept up to date in future years. It seems that interest in ancestors increases with age in most individuals. For that reason the youngsters of today may not realize that in later years they will become more and more interested in family history and tradition. If some one in each of the six families will voluntarily report the changes in address, vital statistics and occupation for the individuals in that particular family to which they belong at the end of each year, I will, as long as I am able, endeavor to assemble it and send it forth to those who have original copies of this family history. There are undoubtedly many more pictures and photographs in

existence that could have been included with the three that have been used. But it was felt that for the sake of economy and time it was advisable at present to include only those that are of more general interest to all.

The Medina County Historical Society at Medina, Ohio, has indicated that it would accept and preserve in its museum there a collection of the family records, pictures and heirlooms as an exhibit of our Derr family. Such a procedure would insure their preservation for posterity in the county in which Jacob and Rachel spent most of their married life, raised their children, and were buried. Otherwise these things will eventually become scattered and finally lost. Such items as the old German family Bible with birth records of the children, the framed copy and translation of the original German birth and baptismal certificate of Jacob, the original family group and other photographs along with a copy of this history and genealogy, could be used as a nucleus and additions made from time to time. Any comments or suggestions regarding this idea will be welcome.

The desire to obtain more information about our ancestors finally resulted in my brother Dwight and his wife Hazel taking me with them in November 1959 to Allentown, Pa., and vicinity, where our ancestors first settled after coming to this country from Germany. The two days we spent there were most interesting and uncovered new information that will be mentioned in later pages. After finding the tombstone of our great-grandfather Derr in the old cemetery at the Weisenberg church we were directed to Rev. J. W. Bittner at Kutztown. In 1930 he had published a book, "History of the Bittner-Werley Families - 1753 to 1930", and we were told he was probably the person most familiar with the history of that region. We could well understand this as a large percentage of the tombstones and markers in both the old and new cemeteries at the Weisenberg church had Bittner or Werley names on them. He very graciously presented us with an autographed copy when he learned that we were descendants of one of the Derrs listed in his book, who had married Maria Werley. More will be told later about the close early relationship and intermarrying of the Bittners, Werleys and Derrs.

Because the three families were so closely connected, Rev. Bittner's book has been used as a source of information about the early religious and civil life of our ancestors in eastern Pennsylvania. It is our intent to include his book with the other items that will be placed in the Historical Museum at Medina where it will be available to those who are interested in more details than we feel can be included in this family history. We again want to express our deep feeling of gratitude to Rev. Bittner for his interest and generosity.

To the best of my ability, I have set down facts as they have been given to me. If errors, omissions or misinterpretations have been made, they certainly were not intentional. It is to be hoped that with the individual addresses given herewith, new acquaintances and closer relationships among the Derr family and relatives will be established. That has been one of the main objectives of this project.

Sincere best wishes to all of you.

Earle W. Derr,
Rockford, Illinois

November 18, 1960

CHAPTER I

Introduction

The German Immigrants and Pennsylvania Dutch.

It has been estimated that well over 100,000 European immigrants arrived along the eastern shores of our country in the century that ended in 1800. Those from Germany came mainly for two reasons - first, to escape the three years of compulsory military training as they became twenty-one years of age, and a second and by far more important reason was to seek religious and civil liberty.

William Penn had been granted the colony of Pennsylvania in 1681 by the king of England. Penn was a Quaker (Society of Friends) who in 1682 brought with him others of his belief and founded the city of Philadelphia, which became known as the "City of Brotherly Love". Religious freedom was promised all settlers throughout the colony. As this news reached the European German Palatinate country, lying on both sides of the Rhine river, it started a stream of immigrants from there to the city of Philadelphia and into the surrounding country. This served as a haven of refuge for those Palatinate Protestants whose territory had been devastated three times in a period of thirty years. This devastation occurred at least once as religious persecution when in 1685 King Louis XIV of France revoked the Edict of Nantes (which in 1598 had granted religious liberty to the Huguenots) and then sent his armies even into Germany to destroy the Protestants there. With their homes destroyed and their lands laid waste they left their homeland and many fled to William Penn's land of religious freedom. A majority of these immigrants were practically destitute and thus unable to pay for their passage across the ocean. Such were bound out to the highest bidder for their services for periods of from one to five years depending on the amounts they owed.

The ocean trips averaged from six to nine weeks and in stormy weather for as long as four months. The ships were from 65 to 100 feet in length and 21 to 26 feet in width. Each was known by a name and seldom carried over 300 passengers. Seasickness was naturally common and to such an extent that many of the names on the passenger list were incomplete and so designated by the word "sick" after part of the name. Such an influx of Germans at Philadelphia alarmed the government authorities and about 1750 they considered restriction of the numbers. That prompted the ship captains (as protection of their business) to destroy, when possible, part or all of the passenger lists that they were required to file with port authorities. From this it can readily be understood that some of the German immigrants about that time may never have been registered or recorded.

When the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, Pennsylvania had a population of about 300,000 of whom roughly one third were Germans, one third Quakers and one third a mixture of other racial elements. The Pennsylvania German Historical Society in 1934 at Norristown, Pa., published a three volume edition of "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" by Strassburger and Hinke, which is now on the shelves of many public libraries. In it have been assembled all the available passenger lists, names of ships, ports of embarkation, names of captains and the dates on which they arrived at Philadelphia between the years of 1727 and 1808.

Since both our Derr and Beck ancestors belong to that group of German immigrants who later became known as "Pennsylvania Dutch", it seems advisable to explain how this change of name came about. It is very well done in a 34 page booklet published in 1957 by Lester M. Miller, 820 Delta Ave., Reading, Pa., entitled "The Pennsylvania Deutsch" which tells of their origin, history, superstitions, symbols,

charms and foods. His explanation follows:

They are not to be confused with the Holland Dutch who as early as 1613 had settled their colony of New Netherland along the banks of the Hudson and Delaware Rivers with New Amsterdam (now New York City) as the capital. They lost this colony by conquest in 1664 to the English. Then in 1681 King Charles II of England granted the Province of Pennsylvania to William Penn as payment of a debt to his father, Admiral Penn, for friendly services of previous years. But the eastern part of the state was settled for the most part by immigrants who came from Wurttemberg and the Palatinate of Germany. Because Germany was always known as "Deutschland" these settlers were often called "Deutschers" and this was later abbreviated to "Dutch". Scattered among the German settlers were small groups of English, Swiss, Welsh, Poles, Scotch-Irish and Slavs with whom they mingled and traded. Eventually the true German was combined with words and phrases of the other spoken languages, and from it the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect along with its customs and traditions emerged.

A small portion of the German immigrants consisted of religious sects distinguished from the others by their peculiarities of dress and religious customs. Among these were the Amish, Dunkards and Mennonites, known as the "Plain People", who in a great degree have refused to intermarry with or adopt the customs and religion of their neighbors. For that reason they have gradually been erroneously accepted as the true Pennsylvania Dutch, but actually represent only a small percentage of the original German settlers.

CHAPTER II

Ancestors of Jacob Derr and Rachel Beck Derr

A. Location of the early ancestors.

Family tradition indicates that the ancestors of both Jacob Derr and his wife Rachel Beck Derr came from Germany about 1750 but the definite dates of arrival have not been determined. It is known that both families settled in the region between ten and twenty miles northwest of Allentown and lived for 100 years or more within the boundaries of what are now the counties of Northampton, Lehigh, Schuylkill and Carbon. The rough map on the following page shows that these four counties lie astride Blue Mountain with the first two on the south side of the summit and the latter pair on the north side. Blue Mountain is actually a mountain range extending from Stroudsburg and the Delaware Water Gap approximately 150 miles southwest to within about 15 miles northwest of Chambersburg, Pa.

It should be stated here that Northampton county originally included much of east central Pennsylvania and was formed March 10, 1752 with Easton the county seat. The other three counties were formed later and in part from Northampton county - Schuylkill on March 11, 1811, with Pottsville the county seat; Lehigh on March 6, 1812, with Allentown the county seat; and Carbon on March 13, 1843, with Mauch Center (later called Mauch Chunk and now Jim Thorpe) as the county seat. These dates must be remembered when referring to these counties and their townships between the years of 1752 and 1843.

Roberts "History of Lehigh County", found in the Allentown Library, states

MAP SHOWING LOCALITY OF THE DERR AND BECK ANCESTORS IN EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

SCALE - APPROX. 11 MI. PER INCH

that many of the early settlers were drawn to Lynn and Weisenberg townships in Lehigh county because of their highly productive soil, fine water and good forests for timber. For that reason these townships were more thickly settled and less subject to attack by the Indians than other more sparsely populated surrounding areas.

It is surprising to find in this part of the state so many of the old stone farm buildings still in use and well preserved. Many of them must be 200 or more years old. The houses are of distinctive design and on nearly all the barns are seen several of the traditional Pennsylvania Dutch "Hex" symbols that are supposed to bring good luck and abundant crops, and protect the farmer's family and cattle. At the hotel in Lenhartsville, 28 miles west of Allentown, Johnny Ott, the Hexologist, has his sample display and workshop from which he goes forth to create the "Seals of Security" for his customers. For those who may be interested in family tradition, a sight-seeing trip is recommended into east-central Pennsylvania and especially into the four-county area shown on the map herewith.

B. Early ancestral history.

Since Uncle Frank (Henry Francis) Derr did considerable research work in an effort to discover his ancestral immigrants into America and incorporated his findings into the manuscript of his "Derr Ancestry and Genealogy" it seems appropriate to include the first two pages here. With some minor changes it reads as follows -

"When I was a boy in my early teens, father told me that his grandfather Derr came from Germany. As near as I can learn he arrived in America about 1740, settled in Pennsylvania and was married at the age of thirty. I have recently learned that his first name was John but his wife's name is unknown. His son Nicholas, my grandfather, had two wives. The first was Maria Werley Derr who died when father was born. He, Nicholas, was a captain in the War of 1812 and was serving May 20, 1813 when father was born. His grandfather raised him. His second wife was Elizabeth Billman Derr.

"Fifteen children were born to Nicholas Derr - three boys and twelve girls. The Archives of Pennsylvania say Nicholas Derr was Captain of the 101st Regular Pennsylvania Militia on Sept. 23, 1814. (Note - This is verified in Vol. 8 - Sixth Series page 683 and in Vol. 9 - Sixth Series page 766 of the State Archives. It states that Capt. Nicholas Derr received marching orders to Marcus Hook on the Delaware River on Sept. 23, 1814, and arrived there on Sept. 28, 1814.) He died at the age of 93 and was buried in Lehigh county, Pa. (Note - Our present records indicate he died a week before his ~~84~~th 91 birthday).

"A quotation from my family letter dated May 27, 1921 may be of interest. 'We left Pennsylvania for Ohio in the fall of 1853 when I was six and a half years old. I remember both grandfathers and have quite a vivid picture in my mind of how each one looked. Grandfather Nicholas Derr was six feet four inches tall, well proportioned and had a commanding air and walk. We lived five miles from Blue Mountain and he lived on the other side. (Note - This was apparently in Lynn Township, Lehigh County.) The distance up was three miles, across the top two miles and the descent on the other side was two miles to his home. We walked nearly the whole distance, catching short rides only now and then. When my six-year-old legs became very tired, father carried me on his back. Twelve miles on the level is not a great distance but over the mountains it needs to be multiplied two or three times. At any rate after nearly eighty years, I still remember

how tired I was. We also made the return journey on foot.'

"I recall several things in connection with this trip very distinctly, the view from the top of Blue Mountain and the huckleberries we picked there. Another thing I recall was when walking from grandfather's barn to the house with grandfather and father ahead of me, I thought it strange that father was so small. He was five feet ten and one half inches tall in his stocking feet but his father's five and one half inches extra, with the symmetry maintained, made a noticeable difference.

"Grandfather Beck had an entirely different appearance. While grandfather Derr was grave, commanding and stately, grandfather Beck was of medium height, active and energetic. In form he was much like brother George. He was a prominent man in his community and in his church. When anything of importance was to be done, mother told me they always depended on her father. On one corner of his farm they built a church on land donated by him. This church was later rebuilt but it never lost its name of the Beck Church.

"Mother also told me that when her father cultivated corn, she and a sister did the hoeing. He stationed one at each end of the row and then had them work toward each other until they reached the middle, and then back to the end. In this way only could they accomplish the work. But they had no time to visit.

"I have only one picture in mind of Grandma Beck and that was of her sitting in a rocking chair. She was of medium size and quite fleshy. She died at the age of 85 and grandfather Beck at 86.

"On mother's side I think the history is even more interesting than on father's. The Becks came from Darmstadt in Hesse, Germany. My great-grandfather, Andreas Beck, with his wife Christena, came to America with his brother John, aged 19, and settled in Moore Township, Northampton county, Pennsylvania. He 'connected' with the Lutheran church in 1753. He received his naturalization papers the same year. As the latter required about seven years (of residence) his arrival must have been during or before 1746. A great fortune amounting to millions is awaiting the Becks in Wurttemberg, Germany. I am not holding my breath until I get my share.

"Grandfather Beck's given name was George and his wife's name Barbara Steyerwalt (Beck). Twelve children were born to this marriage. The following is a quotation from a letter dated May 27, 1921, from Aunt Christena Beck Keller's daughter, Ada B. Keller. 'Mother had a big surprise, last week. Her brother, Tom Beck, sent her the original clipping from a London paper stating that Justus Beck was created a Baronet by King George the First in 1774 - also the Coat of Arms'. This is very interesting to look up and see where the Becks came from. I never dreamed that we had any English blood in our veins." H. F. Derr - Begun 3-19-1931.

"I was born in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, Pa., April 5, 1847. I am sure this is correct for I was there at the time. We lived in a log house to which was added another log house which father used as a blacksmith shop. Next to this ran a creek and parallel to this ran the road with pine woods on the right hand side. I still remember the large blacksnakes I used to see along the woods and road. I still recall the spring house where we got the water from the ever-flowing spring. The orchard came next to this. The farm was bounded on three sides by woods and our nearest neighbor lived a mile from us.

"One day as father was digging out underbrush which I had to pick up, I saw

a deer staring at us. The minute I started toward it, it ran away. I suppose it came from Blue Mountain which was about five miles away and always in sight and always blue. I can distinctly remember crossing these but once. We were ready to move to Ohio and father and I went on foot to make our last visit. I still recall grandfather's large bank barn, large horses, large wagon and his great size. Father looked like a boy beside him."

While most of the above seems to have been taken from memory, it is evident from changes and additions on the manuscript that new details about the grandparents were found after it had been typed. From references to the above two letters of May 27, 1921, it seems evident that Uncle Frank was at that time searching for information about his ancestors. I can faintly remember reading the family "round robin" letters on a few of their stops at father's home. It is to be regretted that they were not preserved for later generations.

For those not familiar with the German language, the following German names and the English equivalents are given - Johann or Johannes is John; Andreas is Andrew and Maria is Mary. Our family name of Dürr has been changed to the English form, Derr.

About 1935 it was learned that the Historical Research Bureau in Washington, D. C. could furnish a family historical and biographical sketch of the Derr family at a nominal price. So brother Dwight, knowing of Uncle Frank's effort along this line, sent for a copy which has been loaned to me. While it does not give information about any of our known ancestors, it does give the following as to the origin of the name. - "The distinguished name of Dürr and its variants belongs to that group of names which owe their origin to personal characteristics of the early bearer. Coming from "dürr" meaning lean, thin, spare or lanky, thus the implication is that the first of the name was thin or slender. The name was known as early as 1350 - Konrad der Dürre of Kleingertach. These are some of the variants - Der, Derr, Dehr, Deur, Duer, Duerre, Dir, and Durre."

Numerous listings are given of these names in the above mentioned booklet, but none are indicated as having a son named Johann Nicholas, the father of our Jacob Derr. In it and also in the previously mentioned "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" are listed four men named Johann or Johannes Dürr who came to Philadelphia from Germany. They are given as follows -

1. Johannes Dürr arrived 9-26-1749 on ship "Dragon" from Rotterdam.
2. Johann Ulrich Dürr arrived 9-24-1751 on ship "Neptune" from Rotterdam.
3. Johann Georg Dürr arrived 10-16-1751 on ship "Duke of Wirtenberg" from Rotterdam.
4. Johannes Dürr arrived 10-27-1764 on ship "Hero" from Rotterdam.

A search for the record of arrival about 1740 of a Johannes Dürr who might have been our ancestor has thus far been fruitless. Possibly his name was on one of the passenger lists destroyed by the ship captain as was previously mentioned. Uncle Frank's statement that "as near as I can learn the arrival date was about 1740", together with a number of erasures and changes in these lines on his original manuscript indicates some uncertainty on his part about the date.

From statements made in Rev. Bittner's book, on which he spent nine years of research before it was printed, there seems to be very strong evidence that our Johannes Dürr was the No. 4 listed above who arrived Oct. 27, 1764 on the ship "Hero" along with Michael Bittner and Lorrentz Dürr. The record of their arrival is found on page 697 Volume I of Strassburger and Hinke's "Pennsylvania German

Pioneers". Valentin Dürr, probably a brother of Johannes, and Leonard Dürr, arrived Nov. 10, 1756, on the ship "Snow Chance". Sebastian Werley and his wife, Rosina Barbara Dürr, a sister of Johannes Dürr, arrived Sept. 24, 1753, on the ship "Neptune". Their oldest son, Johann Nicholas Werley, was the father of Maria Werley (Mrs. Johann Nicholas Dürr), the mother of Jacob Dürr. The brothers Valentin and Johannes Dürr were closely associated in both church and business affairs with Sebastian Werley so it seems quite logical that it was the son of this Johannes Dürr who married a granddaughter of the Sebastian Werleys. There is no other Johannes Dürr referred to in the Rev. Mr. Bittner's book but more research into church and courthouse records would be necessary to actually verify the above supposition.

There were other marriages involving the Derrs, Werleys and Bittners as follows -

1. Anna Derr, born 6-17-1810 - died 10-11-1858, married John Bittner, a great-grandson of the Michael Bittner who came from Germany on the boat with Johannes Dürr.
2. Mamie Derr married Harry Herman (birth and death dates not given) whose mother, Rosie Bittner Herman, was a great-great-granddaughter of the above Michael Bittner.
3. Catherine Derr, born 11-5-1830, married Nathan Werley, a grandson of Michael, the brother of Johann Nicholas Werley whose daughter, Maria, was the mother of Jacob Derr.
4. Jeremiah Derr, born 4-13-1818, married Rosie Werley, a granddaughter of Valentine Werley whose brother Johann Nicholas Werley was the father of Maria Werley Derr.
5. Frank Derr, born 11-2-1899, of New Smithville, Pa., married Cora Fries, a great-great-granddaughter of Michael Werley, who was a brother of Maria Werley Derr. This Frank Derr and his wife Cora were the parents of four pairs of twins.

From the above it would seem that the Derr, Werley and Bittner families not only intermarried but also used many of the same names.

(Translation of the German Baptismal and Birth Certificate of Jacob Derr)

. . . . . .

From the moment we are born,
From life's first unsteady gait
Unto the earthen grave forlorn
'Tis but a short and measured step.
Alas! with every fleeting moment
Doth our vigor ebb away
And with every passing year
We draw nearer to the grave.

Oh who knows at what hour
Will come to him the final call.
For God's spoken word has never
That to any man revealed.
He who keeps his house in order
Joyful will this world depart
Yet despite its certain coming
Death ever takes us by surprise.

. . . . . .

TO THE MARRIED COUPLE OF NICOLAUS DÜRR AND HIS WIFE, MARIA, BORN A WERLEY, A SON HAS BEEN BORN ON THE 20TH DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1813.

THIS SON, BORN IN WEISENBERG TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA IN NORTH AMERICA, WAS BAPTIZED AND GIVEN THE NAME "JACOB" ON THE 28TH DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1813 BY REVEREND JOHN KNOSKE. THE GODFATHER WAS JOHANNES DÜRR, A WIDOWER AND THE PATERNAL GRANDFATHER.

. . . . . .

I have been baptized! I am in a covenant
By my baptism with my God!
So I speak always with joyful voice
In trouble, misery, anxiety and pain.
I am baptized! In this I rejoice
And joy abides with me forever.

I am baptized in Thine own Name
God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost!
I have been numbered among the seed
Of thy people sacred unto Thee.
Oh what good fortune has befallen me.
Oh Lord, may I be worthy of it.

I am baptized! Although I die
How can the cold grave harm me?
I know my Home and my Inheritance
Which I have with God in Heaven.
After my death there waits for me
Festive Raiment and Celestial Joy.

. . . . . .

(The following is a translation of the reverse side of the certificate)

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1843, ON THE 5TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, I, JACOB DERR, WAS JOINED IN MARRIAGE WITH RACHEL BECK IN EAST PENN TOWNSHIP, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, BY PASTOR REVEREND AUGUST BAUER.

. . . . . .

Among the papers from Frank Derr was found a translation of a portion of the above birth and baptismal certificate indicating that it was signed by Martin Breisall. It also stated that the following appeared on the back -

THIS BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE BELONGS TO JACOB DERR AND WAS PURCHASED FROM NICHOLAS WERLEY, GRANDFATHER OF THE BAPTIZED CHILD, ON THE 24TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1813.

. . . . . .

The preceding is a translation of the German Birth and Baptismal Certificate of Jacob Dürr and of the record of his marriage to Rachel Beck as written on the back of the certificate. The original was probably among the belongings of Rachel at the time of her death and apparently came into the possession of her son Frank, who gave it to his oldest daughter Vera. While it is unquestionably authentic, there is a certain amount of mystery connected with it. It was customary with the Pennsylvania Dutch that the symbolic religious baptismal certificate be placed in the coffin and buried along with the individual whose birth and baptism it recorded. The reason for this is understandable when the verses are read that so strongly express the utmost faith in baptism as a hope for eternal life in Heaven. Here is a vivid example of the deep religious convictions of our forefathers.

As stated above there was found among the papers Frank Derr had accumulated in writing his Derr Genealogy and his Autobiography, a typewritten translation of the Birth and Baptismal Certificate but with a different statement on the back. Since the vital facts on the front of both certificates are identical and the name of Martin Breisall does not appear on ours, it seems probable that the one we now have is a copy of that original, made primarily as a legal marriage record of Jacob and Rachel Derr after their marriage in 1843. This seems all the more logical because on our copy, in fine print, is the following (translated) "Printed and sold by B. and W. Blumer, Allentown, Pa., 1843". Therefore, it could not have been made up in 1813 when Jacob was born.

On page 96 of Rev. J. W. Bittner's "History of Bittner-Werley Families" is found the following - "Maria Werley (daughter of Johann Nicholas Werley) was married to John Nicholas Derr - born July 27, 1779 - died July 19, 1863. He is buried in the old cemetery at the Weisenberg Church. After seven years of married life Maria died and is undoubtedly buried in the old cemetery without a marker. Mr. Derr was later married to Elizabeth Billman - born May 27, 1789 - died May 9, 1860. Buried in the old cemetery. No issue known". From the preceding facts we are given the following authentic information -

1. Nicolaus Dürr - the name on the birth and baptismal certificate - and Johann Nicholas Derr are one and the same person, who married Maria Werley, the daughter of Johann Nicholas Werley and Margaretha Hantz Werley.
2. Johannes Dürr, a widower, was the father of Nicholas Derr and grandfather of Jacob Derr.
3. Jacob Dürr changed the spelling of the family name to Derr before he was married at the age of 30.
4. Nicholas Dürr was living in Weisenberg township, Lehigh county, when his son Jacob was born in 1813 and probably was a member of the Lutheran church of which Rev. John Knoske was pastor.
5. In 1843, when Jacob Derr married Rachel Beck, her parents, George and Barbara Steyerwalt Beck, were living in or near East Penn township, which later that year became part of the newly-formed Carbon county. The Becks were undoubtedly members of the Lutheran church of which Rev. August Bauer was pastor at that time.

The following information found in the Allentown public library also throws some light on the church affiliations and locations of the families - In Matthew's "History of Lehigh County" page 464, it states that about 1820 Rev. John Konosky was the Lutheran pastor of Ziegel church, located in the southern part of Weisenberg township about five miles south of the Weisenberg church. In spite of the variation in spelling (often found when German names were changed to English) he was undoubtedly the pastor who baptized Jacob Derr in 1813 and possibly was serving both churches at that time. And in Munsell's "History of Schuylkill County" page 387, it states that Rev. E. A. Bauer was the first Evangelical Lutheran pastor to serve Zion's church in West Penn township and that he was pastor of St. John's church in West Penn Township from 1842 to 1870. He was apparently serving as pastor of another church in East Penn township in 1843 when he married Jacob Derr and Rachel Beck.

Because the Weisenberg church had an important place in the lives of some of our ancestors, it seems fit to include here some of its history as revealed by Rev. J. W. Bittner in his book. The first Weisenberg church was built of logs in 1758 and replaced in 1804 by a new log structure on the same location. The names of Sebastian Werlein (Werley in English) and his son Nicholas (the father of Maria Werley Derr) are found on the resolution of November 7, 1803, to build the new church. This second log building was replaced by a stone church in 1830 and was located on the site where the present brick church, built in 1865, now stands. It is possibly two hundred yards west of the first location that was at the corner of the old cemetery. The present church stands across the road to the north of and facing the new cemetery. It is a beautiful building both inside and out with a well proportioned square white steeple that overlooks the valleys and foothills of the Blue Mountain to the north.

For some unknown reason the Weisenberg church records were at one time taken to the Ziegel church and while there the building and all the records were burned during a severe thunderstorm. As a rule in those days the early country churches

were jointly built and used on alternate Sundays by Reformed and Lutheran congregations. All records indicate that our Derr, Beck and Werley ancestors were Lutherans.

We were told by Rev. Bittner that probably about 1850 the janitor and sexton of Weisenberg church without proper authority removed many of the old slab grave markers on the pretext that it was easier to clean the cemetery. They were placed in a pile along with other stones back of the old church building and, intentionally or not, were later used in the foundation walls of the present church but with the engraved side unexposed. That is undoubtedly the present location of the markers of Maria Werley Derr and others of our ancestors.

C. The Beck Ancestors.

Up to the present time we have been unable to verify the statement of Uncle Frank that his great-grandfather, Andreas Beck, came to America about 1745 with his brother John then 19 years old. He probably obtained that information from his cousin Ada B. Keller with whom he was corresponding in 1921 about his Beck ancestors. We do find in the "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" publication, previously referred to, the following three immigrants named Andreas Beck as having landed at Philadelphia between the year 1740 and 1751.

1. Andreas Beck age 30 arrived 11-25-1740 on ship "Loyal Judith" from Rotterdam. On this same ship was Johannes Beck age 25. The ages of all immigrants were supposed to be shown on the passenger lists at that time but very few of the ship's captains complied with the ruling.
2. Andreas Beck arrived 9-27-1746 on ship "Ann Gulley" from Rotterdam.
3. Andreas Beck arrived 9-14-1751 on ship "Duke of Bedford" from Rotterdam. On this same ship came Johann Jerg Beck, Abraham Beck, and Johann Marcus Beck.

Further search will be required to determine which one of the above was the grandfather of our Rachel Beck Derr.

The following pertinent information was found in the Allentown public library. In Matthew's "History of Lehigh and Carbon Counties" published in 1884, on page 745 is stated: "Andrew Beck of Siegersville, Lehigh county, about 1800 bought a lumber tract on Nesquehoning Creek in Carbon county about one half mile below the present village of Nesquehoning, upon which he erected a saw mill. In 1805 he bought 135 acres in Mahoning township (Carbon county) for his son Andrew, who lived on it three years, then sold it to his brother George Beck, who lived there until he died in 1870. George Beck had 12 children; Caroline (Mrs. Gabriel) Delcher, living on the old homestead; Daniel who lived nearby in the same township; Thomas G. who lived in Lehighton; Christiana (Mrs. Jas. M.) Keller resides in Lansford, Pa.; others are in Ohio and Illinois".

Thus the reference Uncle Frank makes to "Aunt Christena Beck Keller" definitely establishes her as a sister of our Rachel Beck who is one of the "other" children of George Beck who moved to Ohio. There was also another brother, Jonas Beck, who lived in Fostoria, Ohio, and operated a grocery store there at the time Uncle Frank Derr moved to that city from DeKalb in 1899. The two families, according to Orline Derr Gilliard, shared the same house for a while until her father was able to find a house in which to live with his family.

Also from the above county history we learn that Rachel Beck undoubtedly was born (1819) and raised on the farm occupied about 1884 by her sister, Mrs. Gabriel Delcher. On the corner of that farm would be located the Beck Lutheran church referred to by Frank Derr.

CHAPTER III

GENEALOGY Chart of Jacob and Rachel Derr
(Vertical columns represent generations)

Johannes Dürr

Johann Nicholaus Dürr
b. 7-27-~~1779~~ 1772
d. 7-19-1863

Buried
* O.C.W.C.

Sebastian Werlein(Werley)
b. ---
d. between 1804 & 1812

Johann Nicholas Werley
b. 8-27-1752 or '53
d. 8- 1-1831

m. 1806

m.
Rosina Barbara Dürr

Buried
*O.C.W.C.

both buried
*O.C.W.C.

m. ---

Maria Werley
b. -
d. 5-20-1813
(when son Jacob was born)

Margaretha Hantz
b. 2- 7-1758
d. 2-20-1834
Buried*O.C.W.C.

Buried *O.C.W.C.
(no marker)

Andreas Beck
m.
Christena -?

George Beck
b. 1784
d. 1870

m.

Barbara Steyerwalt
b. -
d. Age 85

Jacob Dürr
b. 5-20-1813 in Weisenberg Twp. Lehigh Co., Pa.
d. 8- 5-1886

Buried in Wadsworth, O.

m. 2- 5-1843 as Jacob Derr

Rachel Beck
b. 4-8-1819 in Mahoning Twp., Northampton Co. Pa.(now Carbon Co.)
d. 1-12-1905

Buried Wadsworth,O.

(1)Fianna Derr Orton
b. 2-22-1845 in W.P.Twp.#
m. 3-12-1867
d. 1-15-1932
Buried in Wadsworth, Ohio

(2)Henry Francis Derr
(Known as Frank)
b. 4-5-1847 in W.P.Twp.#
m. 7-26-1877
d. 6-30-1934
Buried in Fostoria, Ohio

(3)Hettie Derr Nicholls
b. 3-19-1850 in W.P.Twp.#
m.10-22-1878
d. 7-15-1896
Buried in Bethel Church Cemetery,Blue Mound,Ill.

(4)George Mandus Derr
b. 11-17-1852
m. 4- 2-1885
d. 10- 9-1923
Buried in Richland Twp. Cemetery, Clark Co.,S.D.

(5)Josephine Derr Wagner
(known as Josie)
b.10-20-1856 in Montville Twp., MedinaCo., Ohio
m.12-31-1884
d. 9-29-1937
Buried in Pine River,Minn

(6)Jacob Hamilton Derr
b. 3-15-1859 in Montville Twp., Medina Co.,Ohio
m.12-23-1885
d. 9- 5-1948
Buried in Wadsworth,Ohio

Abbreviations
b. - born
m. - married
d. - died

* O.C.W.C. - Old cemetery at Weisenberg church in Weisenberg Twp., Lehigh Co., Pa.
\# W.P.Twp. - West Penn Twp., Schuylkill Co., Pa.

C H A P T E R III

The Married Life of Jacob Derr and Rachel Beck Derr.

We can only speculate as to the cause or reason for Jacob and Rachel Derr leaving their home in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, Pa., and moving to Montville township, Medina county, Ohio. Most likely it was because some relative or friend had made a previous similar move. It will be stated later that Jacob had been to Ohio about 20 years before the family actually moved there and at that time had seen the "Bear Swamp" farm to which they moved in 1854. We do know that there were both Derr and Beck relatives living near Wadsworth and that Rachel made visits to some of them after her husband had died.

There was a Harry Derr living near Wadsworth who we always understood was a second cousin of my father, Jacob Hamilton Derr. And in Rev. Bittner's book is found the following information that may have had some influence on the decision to move to this locality.

Jonas Bittner (born 1824-died 1893) and his wife, a Lydia Hall (born 1835-died 1919) had ten children and all but one of this family are listed as living or being buried in Akron or Doylestown, Ohio. Jonas Bittner's father, Andreas, married Christiana Werley, a niece of Johann Nicholas Werley, whose daughter Maria married Johann Nicholas Derr, the mother and father of Jacob Derr. Thus Jonas Bittner's mother was a first cousin of Marie Werley Derr (mother of Jacob) and Jonas was a second cousin of Jacob. Going back another generation, we find that Jonas Bittner's grandfather, Michael Bittner came to America in 1764 on the same boat with the Johannes Derr who we believe was the grandfather of Jacob Derr.

The following we know were relatives of Rachel Beck Derr - Mrs. Ed Ehrie and Mrs. Seth Baughman, both of Wadsworth, also Calvin Steyerwalt who lived a short distance from the Bear Swamp farm. He undoubtedly was related to Barbara Steyerwalt who had married George Beck and who was the mother of Rachel Beck Derr.

Actually we have very little information about the married life of Jacob and Rachel Derr. It is apparent that except for the last five years of his life he was a farmer who did blacksmithing as a side line. Part of Frank Derr's Genealogy and Autobiography will be inserted here to give a good picture of the early life and conditions in those years between 1853 and 1873, the year Frank left home.

"Of our trip to Ohio in 1853 I remember only a few things clearly: crossing the mountains by rail and at one point near the top, looking down and seeing a winding river that looked like a ribbon. Another event was being lost in Pittsburg where we stayed over night. Father and I were taking in the sights when for some reason he left me in a store and told me to wait there until he returned. It seemed to me he was gone a long time so I started to look around and when he returned I had disappeared. He hunted for me for some time without success and then called the police. Soon after that they found me in another store looking around but not knowing I was lost.

"On coming to Ohio we lived the first winter at what was later known as Silver Creek some three miles east of Wadsworth. Father then bought the Bear Swamp farm on the town line between Sharon and Montville township, of which he took possession the next fall. Father told me that he saw this same land some twenty years before and could have purchased it then for a dollar or two an acre. It was then all woods and swamp. When we moved onto it the fifty acres were about two-thirds cleared but all of the fields had many of the stumps remaining.

There were several large "cat swamps" which remained as nature had left them. They contained fallen trees, many of which were buried in the muck with other trees lying over them.

"In the summer the tall grass and taller weeds would be as high as a man's head and in the late fall the muskrats would build their houses in this flooded area. The Bear Swamp was about half a mile long and a quarter mile wide. The road ran through it with a ditch on either side about two feet deep and five or six feet wide. The muck taken from the ditches was thrown into the middle of the road and raised it a couple of feet above the surrounding land.

"Such a roadbed made a splendid home for muskrats that undermined it and the crust of earth which remained would break through as horses and wagons went over the top. Then there was likely to be a "Johnny stuck in the mud". It was no picnic to extricate them. Often cattle going between the fence and the ditch in trying to cross to the roadbed would become mired. Sometimes they would have to be helped out by placing planks under them to give them a foundation for a foothold. The sink holes in the road had to be watched to keep horses from becoming mired. But as the ditches were dug deeper the drainage became better and dried out the road so it had a good bed. Even the muskrats became discouraged and left.

"The Wolf Bed across which the road ran was also elevated a few feet above the surrounding swamp and made a good home for wolves and bears. The ditches were splendid places for breeding snakes of which there were legion. To a lesser extent this applied to the rest of the farm. Within a few miles of our place blacksnakes more than eight feet long were killed and we found some on our farm that were over six feet in length. They eventually gathered among the rocky ledges and remained there long after the others disappeared.

"Most of our nine acres of swamp land was covered with a growth of large alder bushes a dozen or more feet high and among them were sprinkled ash and elm trees thirty or more feet high. This swamp we began to clear the second year after our arrival. A neighbor (Fifield) and his son took the job of clearing an acre of this. It was downright hard work to dig around and under the big clumps of bushes and trees to get them out. It was a dry summer and the muck would burn. Mr. Fifield and his son would start a fire in this muck around the bushes in the evening and in the morning all they had to do was to trim up the trees. It saved them some hard work but it ruined our muck soil. As soon as father found it out he vetoed it with "vigorous language".

"The Bear Swamp home was a log house with chinking between the logs and had to be "mudded up" each fall. The ends of the logs stuck out on each corner. I used to climb one of these corners, then work myself along the end to the window in the middle and crawl in. The second floor was all in one room and had one window at each end. The first floor had a large living room and two small bedrooms. For a number of years after we moved there, we had no carpets and later nothing but rag carpets in the two bedrooms.

"Until I was nineteen we cut all our wheat and oats and bound it by hand. The grass was cut with a scythe, spread out to dry, made into windrows or hay cocks, then loaded and unloaded on and off the wagon by hand fork. The first grass cut with a mowing machine was done a year or two before I left home. It grew on a little less than two acres of swamp-cleared land. It was timothy and grew as tall as the horses. I had to follow the machine and turn the grass over so the driver could see where to start cutting for the next round. We sold nearly eight tons of hay from this field but it was too coarse to make good feed.

"Some of the flax we raised, mother would help pull, thrash, spread out to dry and rot the woody part, then break and spin. After weaving it would be cut up and made into clothes.

"The sugar making season was always an interesting event. We tapped from 100 to 125 maple trees, boring a hole with a three fourth inch bit about two inches deep and driving in a spile to let the sap run into a crock at the foot of the tree. We gathered the sap usually with two barrels on a stone-boat or sled, pouring the sap into a trough about two feet long that fit over the barrels. This had a funnel in the center to let the sap run into the barrel. I used this funnel for "tooting" to our neighboring sugar camps and would get replies from over half a mile away. The sap was emptied at the sugar-camp into a large wooden tank holding from ten to twelve barrels that was made out of a large whitewood log about 25 feet long. The sugaring off was also a big event.

"This was at the time when there were millions of wild pigeons that had their roosting place in Copley swamp about twelve miles east of us. They would feed for miles around that area. When they would rise together in the morning it sounded like distant thunder. They were fine eating so were shot or ensnared by decoy in large numbers. They flew in great flocks often a quarter of a mile long and an eighth of a mile wide. I remember one flock that covered the sky so you could not see the horizon. This happened about a mile east of Wadsworth and is a true pigeon story - not a fish story!

"A few years after we settled on the Bear Swamp farm, the Lutherans, German Reformed, and the Mennonites joined forces to build what was later called the South-west Sharon Church. It was located about a mile south and half a mile east of Boneta on a corner of the old Bentley farm. Each denomination had its own minister. The Mennonites, having the smallest number, usually held their services on Sunday afternoons. The other two held their services on alternate Sunday mornings so we had preaching every Sunday. Members of both denominations were expected to attend and usually half the sermon was in English and half in German. The men and boys would sit on one side of the house and the women and girls on the other side.

"As we had very few hymn books, the minister would read a line or two and the audience would then sing it. This would continue until the whole hymn, often containing eight or ten verses, was sung. We had no organ or other musical instrument - a piano was quite unknown. Our hymn books consisted entirely of words - no notes - and we all sang from memory. Soon after the church was erected in 1859 we went there to singing school where Fianna, Nettie, Hettie and I had our first lessons in note reading. George and Josie were too young and Jacob had just been born. Here Fianna and I joined the Lutheran church.

"The places and occasions for amusement and entertainment were few and far between. Spelling schools were held in the winter as the older pupils attended only at that time - when they were not working on the farms. As those belong to the distant past I will briefly describe them. Two leaders were selected from the best spellers and they alternately chose individuals for their side until all of the group was divided into two sides. Then the teacher would pronounce a word first to the leader of one side then to the other leader and alternate in this manner on down each side in the order they were chosen. If a word was misspelled it would be passed on until some one could spell it correctly. The spelling was kept up for about one-half hour and then there would be a recess and visiting

period for about a half hour. After this came the 'spelling down' which served two purposes - First to decide which had the better side and second to see who could spell the school down. I had my share both in choosing up and spelling down. When the spelling began each one that misspelled a word would sit down and be out of the competition. Then the word was given the proper person on the other side. If the word was correctly spelled the next person on the other side was given a new word. Eventually all but one person would be seated and that one had spelled down the school.

"After the 'spell-down' came the speaking which sometimes contained dialogues and sometimes songs, in both of which I usually took part. I spoke 'My Grandfather was a Most Wonderful Man', consisting of part speaking and part singing, for about fifteen years. Like the itch - it took every time. I have gone as far as seven miles to attend spelling school and some went even farther. We had some good spellers at that time.

"The singing schools and the writing schools came next in order of social gatherings. Both of these I taught. As we always had an intermission in the middle of the session for visiting and gossiping they were usually well attended.

"In the winter the sleigh rides contributed much to the success of both the foregoing as well as other social functions and must not be overlooked. We would fill a wagon box with straw, put it on a bob-sled, pile in about a dozen young people, hitch a good team of horses with plenty of sleigh bells to the sled, use three or four buffalo robes to keep us warm even in zero weather and we were in a world of our own - happy days gone by! In this way we would go from five to ten miles to some private home or to a spelling or writing school. I remember going in this way to a dance with an ox team. Of course we did not go as far as if we had an auto bus but we got there just the same and enjoyed ourselves. I doubt if young folks will ever have any better times.

"In the good old days we used tallow candles mostly but supplemented occasionally with the tallow 'dip'. The 'dip' was shaped like a flat-iron hollowed out to hold melted tallow and a wick which projected from the nose where it was lighted. They were not high class lights but we managed to get along with them. Years later came the coal-oil lamp which was a great improvement and enabled us to sew and read by it. All the sewing was done by hand - the sewing machine was not yet invented.

"One spring day when I was thirteen, father and I were working near the woods when Cyrus Chandler, who lived on the adjoining farm, came over to tell us that war had been declared between the North and the South. I shall never forget the peculiar feeling that came over me at the thought of war. Four young men on adjoining farms enlisted and fifteen enlisted within a radius of two miles. As far as excitement was concerned the World War was tame. The war songs were a great feature and were sung with a spirit, intensity, and solemnity that I never heard during the World War. Whenever a group of young people came together these songs would be sung. All would start out bravely, then one by one they would falter and stop with perhaps half of them in tears. Nearly every one of them had a dear friend or relative in the army.

"Father was raised by his grandfather in the Blue Mountain area and his education was very limited. He thought the three R's - 'Readin, Ritin, and Rithmatic' - were sufficient so during the three months winter school term he often kept us out from two to six weeks. I started to go to a 'select' school at Sharon Center but when half of the twelve weeks were up he took me out. The next fall I went twelve weeks to the Copley Select School."

It should be stated that the "select" schools at that time were the forerunners of our high schools. But instead of the teachers being paid from public tax money, they were paid direct by the parents of the pupils. In other words it was entirely a private enterprise, later replaced by the public high schools.

And we should pause here to call attention to the zealous determination that Frank Derr had for an education, not only for himself but for his younger brothers and sisters. His statements and school records lead us to believe that this ambition was responsible for one or more of them living and learning together up to the time he graduated from Oberlin College in 1876 when he was nearly thirty years old. And he was granted a Master's degree from Oberlin in 1887 when he was forty years old. The fact that all his younger brothers and sisters attended Oberlin Academy and that brother George graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College, with sister Josie and brother Jacob also being enrolled there, further confirms the family ambition for an education. Not only was the will there to acquire learning under difficulties but they all made use of it by teaching school. We must remember that in those days schooling beyond the first few grades was the exception rather than the rule. To get more than that one had to almost fight for it.

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We have been told that Jacob and Rachel Derr with their family came to Medina county in 1853 and moved onto the Bear Swamp farm in the fall of 1854. Records in the Medina county court house show that the farm (Lot #101 in Montville township) was surveyed July 1, 1854, and that a deed for the fifty acres was given to Jacob Derr by Crist Champion on Oct. 3, 1862 for a price of $715.00. Apparently a land contract purchase was arranged after the survey was made and before Jacob and Rachel took possession that fall. Then the deed was given after final contract payment was made in 1862. On April 4, 1881, the farm was sold to John Busher. It can be assumed that Jacob and Rachel left the farm at about that time and moved to Lodi, Ohio, where he operated a blacksmith shop until he died in 1886. He was buried in the Homerville cemetery about five miles west of Lodi, but after Rachel died in 1905 his remains were brought to the Wadsworth cemetery and placed next to the grave of his wife.

On several occasions in later years their son Jacob pointed out a few large building stones that were the remains of their house and blacksmith shop still lying along the north side of the B & O railroad about one mile west of Lodi and close to the junction of the highway with the railroad overpass. We were also told that much of Jacob's blacksmith work was for the construction crews of the Wheeling and Lake Erie railroad that was built through Lodi about 1881 when grading work was done with horse drawn wagons and scrapers. When the B & O railroad was built through Lodi in 1891, the old Derr home and blacksmith shop were on the right of way and therefore torn down.

After her husband died from the effects of a sunstroke in 1886, Rachel lived with her son Jacob for about twelve years, taking with her part of her small belongings. Among these were the old spinning wheel, distaff and yarn reel she had used to make clothing for her family in earlier years. I can well remember these stored in our large upstairs closet on the farm for many years and now wonder what became of them. Shortly before Dwight Derr was born in 1898, Rachel went to live with her daughter Fianna in Wadsworth. There they lived together until Rachel died in 1905.

I can well remember grandmother Derr, who was nurse-maid and baby sitter for sister Ruth and myself during our early years. She was a gentle, quiet, non-excitable person. If she did become emotionally upset in her near futile efforts

at times to discipline the small grandchildren, we can still recall how she would have a spell of hiccoughs and retire to her upstairs room until it subsided. We sometimes wondered if those attacks were real or pretended, as they usually quieted us from sympathy. During all the years she lived with us, she was a regular subscriber to the Allentown Gazette (printed in German) assumedly to get news of her relatives and friends who still lived in that section of Pennsylvania. And when our grown-ups had some conversation they preferred the children not to hear, it was carried on among the three of them in German, or more likely Pennsylvania Dutch, since my mother also was of that stock. Rachel Beck Derr was loved and highly respected by all who knew her.

CHAPTER IV

GENEALOGY Chart of Fianna Derr Orton, born 2-22-1845 - died 1-15-1932
Married 3-12-1867 to Ransom Orton. His birth and death dates uncertain.

- I. George B. Orton
  - b.10-17-1868
  - d. 4-15-1948
  - m. 12-23-1889
  - Eva M. Wager
    - b. 1-21-1869
    - d. 9-27-1952
    - (1)Fay W. Orton
      - b.10- 3-1891
      - m.12-31-1915
      - Grace Waters
      - b. ---
      - (1) Clara Orton
        - b.12- 4-1919
        - m. 5-10-1940
        - Franklin G. Woodford
        - b. --
        - (1) Paul F. Woodford
          - b. 7-12-1941
        - (2) Brian G. Woodford
          - b. 9-18-1944
        - (3) Mark Woodford
          - b. 1- 7-1951
    - (2)Ruth Anna Orton
      - b. 6-13-1905
      - m. 10- 6-1926
      - Samuel Rufener
      - divorced 5-6-'36
      - (1) Donald F. Rufener
        - b. 11-15-1927
        - m. 9-15-1951
        - Helen Liston
        - b. 1-10-1917
        - (1) Dennis R. Rufener
          - b. 6-21-1952
        - (2) Debra S. Rufener
          - b. 12-19-1955
      - m. 4- 6-1939
      - Carl Horner
      - d. 5- 2-1949
      - (2) Lloyd E. Rufener
        - b. 5-14-1929
        - m. 9-15-1948
        - Donna B. Dull
        - b. 1-25-1931
        - (1) Penelope L.Rufener
          - b. 7-21-1949
        - (2) Rebecca A. Rufener
          - b. 1-22-1952
        - (3) George B. Rufener
          - b. 1-10-1958
      - m. 12-31-1949
      - Robert Horner
      - (Brother of Carl)
      - (3)Anna Jean Rufener
        - b. 4- 1-1931
      - (4)Esther Mae Rufener
        - b. 6- 1-1934
        - m. 1-15-1960
        - Herman Likens
        - b. 10- 6-1934
- II. (Wm.) Burt Orton
  - b. 9-21-1871
  - d. 10- 1-1945
  - m. 12-11-1890
  - Stella M. Hazen
    - b. 1-12-1872
    - d. 9- 7-1947
    - (1)Guy E. Orton - b. 8-22-1893
      - m. 10-22-1937
      - Myrtle Chatfield - b. 12-9-1895
      - (1)Virginia Renner - b. 6-19-1916
        - m. 8-24-1946
        - Lawrence Neff - b. 7-22-1914
      - (2)Dorothy Renner
        - b. 2-26-1919
        - m. 7-29-1939
        - Sanford King
        - b. 11-21-1918
        - (1)Dell King
          - b. 9-22-1942
        - (2)Thomas King
          - b. 7-23-1944
      - (3)Harry B. Renner
        - b. 3- 6-1921
        - m. 4- 6-1939
        - Nellie Porter
        - b. 8-30-1924
        - (1)James Renner
          - b. 9- 8-1940
        - (2)William Renner
          - b. 1-27-1942
        - (3)Bruce Renner
          - b. 4- 2-1947
        - (4)Paul Renner
          - b. 5-16-1948
        - (5)Norman Renner
          - b. 11-23-1951
      - (4)William G. Renner
        - b. 1-23-1924
        - m. 8- 3-1946
        - Mildred Cook
        - b. 7- 8-1924
    - (2)Mary Orton
      - b. 6-30-1896
      - m. 11-11-1914
      - Harry Renner
      - b. 9-15-1893

Continued next page.

GENEALOGY Chart of Fianna Derr Orton - Continued

Wm. Burt Orton m. Stella M. Hazen (Continued)	(2) Mary Orton m. 11-11-1914 Harry Renner (Continued)	(5)Louise Renner b. 8-18-1932 m. 9-27-1952 Richard Baltz b. 1-14-1928	(1)William L. Baltz b. 3- 6-1954 (2)R. Scott Baltz b. 4-26-1955 (3)Heidi R. Baltz b. 4-11-1958
		(1)Robert W. Winland b. 2-15-1925 m. 10- 9-1946 Marjorie Nelson b.	(1)Linda J. Winland b. 7-29-1947 (2)Sandra L. Winland b. 9-19-1950 (3)Sherri L. Winland b. 5-21-1957
	(3) Grace Orton b. 3-7-1905 m. 9-10-1923 Hubert E. Winland b. 9-27-1893	(2)Lewis E. Winland b. 8-21-1926 m. 1-22-1948 Anna M. Fuleski b. 2-24-1919	(1)David J. Winland b. 6- 9-1949 (2)John H. Winland b. 2-25-1951 (3)Jeffrey S. Winland b. 11-27-1954
		(3)H. Dale Winland b. 8- 3-1927 m. 3- 7-1952 Margie N. Sutton b.	(1)Alan R. Winland b. 9-29-1953 (2)Julia L. Winland b. 9-29-1953 (3)Larry S. Winland b. 4-13-1957 (4)Marcia S. Winland b. 4-26-1959
		(4)Alan T. Winland b. 6-22-1930 m. 12-30-1953 Laura J. Arnold b.	(1)Debra S. Winland b. 7- 4-1955 (2)Cynthia L. Winland b. 11-21-1957
III. Harvey L. Orton b. 11-19-1882 d. 4-20-1948 m. 12- 3-1908 Mary Merfield b. 7-24-1883	(1) William Orton b. 4-23-1918 m. 1-31-1948 Virginia Weigle b. 1-30-1922	(1)William L. Orton b. 2- 6-1949 (2)Susanne L. Orton b. 1- 6-1957	

Family of Fianna Derr Orton and Ransom Orton.

Fianna was the oldest child of Jacob and Rachel Derr. Her three sons, George, Burt and Harvey Orton all died between 1945 and 1948 which has made it difficult to obtain details of her early and married life. Her only living daughter-in-law Mary (Mrs. Harvey) Orton has furnished a clipping from the Jan. 21, 1932 issue of the Wadsworth Banner-Press that reads as follows: -

"Mrs. Fianna Orton, sister of Mayor J. H. Derr of this city, passed away last Friday afternoon (Jan. 15) at the home of her son Burt in Sharon Center. Mrs. Orton, who had resided in Wadsworth for thirty years was ill in bed only three weeks prior to her death which was caused by exhaustion. Had she lived she would have observed her 87th birthday on Feb. 22. Funeral services were held Monday morning at 10:30 from the Hilliard and Son Funeral Parlors with Rev. L. B. Lubold of the Acme-Loyal Oak Lutheran churches officiating. Burial was made in Wadsworth Woodlawn Cemetery.

"Mrs. Fianna Orton, daughter of Jacob and Rachel Derr, was born Feb. 22, 1845, in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, Pa. Her father was born in Lehigh Co., Pa., and her mother in Carbon Co., Pa.. When eight years old, Mrs. Orton accompanied her parents to Silver Creek where they resided for three months, after which they moved to the Slanker farm near Fixler's Corners southwest of Sharon where they lived for seven months. The following fall the family moved to the Bear Swamp farm on the Montville-Sharon township line where Fianna lived until her marriage to Ransom Orton. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Orton took up their residence in Sharon township on the farm now owned by their son, George.

"Mrs. Orton was catechised in the Lutheran church at Acme when sixteen years of age and later became a member of the South-West Sharon Lutheran Church. Thirty-five years ago she united with the Grace Lutheran Church of Wadsworth. For twenty years prior to her death she was a practical nurse. She is survived by three sons, George and Burt of Sharon township and Harvey of Wadsworth, six grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren."

The above reference to Jacob and Rachel Derr having lived for seven months on the Slanker farm in southwest Sharon township was not mentioned in Frank Derr's Genealogy and Autobiography but is an undoubted fact.

It may be assumed that Fianna attended the Boneta grade school but there is no definite information of her schooling, her early life, or of her having taught school, as did all of her brothers and sisters. Her husband, Ransom Orton, came to Ohio from Connecticut where he had been a farmer and where his first wife died. In Ohio he first married a Fanny Bell who died in March, 1862, after two sons, John and Ransom were born of that marriage union. John apparently spent most of his life on the farm just to the north of the Jacob Derr Bear Swamp farm, but no information has been obtained about his brother Ransom. The Oberlin College records show that both brothers attended Oberlin Academy between 1864 and 1868 and that Ransom died at Sharon Center, but no date or place of burial is given. His brother John, who apparently died a number of years later, is buried along with his wife in the Sharon cemetery.

A history of Sharon Township written in 1938 by Mrs. John Swigart lists Ransom Orton as a mail box holder at the Sharon Center post office in 1863 and also as a Civil War veteran from Sharon township. It is apparent that both these references include the period of time that Ransom was living on the farm later owned by

his son George, and before he was married to Fianna. The south end of that farm was directly across the road from the Jacob Derr Bear Swamp farm but the house was at the north end of the farm facing the east and west road that ran through Boneta and Sharon Center. For a number of years after her husband's death, Fianna used a room in this house as her home when not on practical nursing duty. About 1902 she moved to Wadsworth and had an apartment with her mother in the township centralized high school building, where she lived and served as custodian. This building was originally built for use as a Mennonite school and later used as a centralized township high school. It was finally torn down and in its place was built the present Isham centralized township grade school. From the school building Fianna and her mother moved into housekeeping rooms in downtown Wadsworth where they lived together until Rachel died in 1905. After that Fianna lived alone when not on nursing duty, but her health gradually failed and the last few years of her life were spent living in the homes of her children.

Children of Fianna Derr Orton

I. George B. Orton was born at Boneta, the oldest grandchild of Jacob and Rachel Derr. He attended the country grade school at Boneta and married Eva, the daughter of Edgar and Anna Wager of Sharon township. Ransom Orton had left his 87 acre farm to his sons, who later divided it with George taking the north 37 acres on which the buildings were located while Burt took the south portion of 50 acres on which there were no buildings. George and Eva lived on this farm from the time of their marriage in 1889 until 1941 when they retired and moved into Wadsworth. Both are buried in the Wadsworth cemetery. Both children of George and Eva were born on the farm west of Boneta.

1. Fay W. Orton attended grade school at Boneta and the Sharon Center High School. After his marriage on New Year's Eve to Grace Waters, one of his schoolmates and the daughter of George and Maria Waters of Sharon township, he started to work in January 1916, for the Akron Wholesale Grocery Company. He was employed by that company for 35 years, the last 15 years as a salesman while living in Millersburg about 50 miles southwest of Akron. Since 1951 they have been living in Wadsworth where Fay is now selling real estate for the Fixler Agency, Inc.

   1-A. Clara Orton (Mrs. Franklin G.) Woodford, their only child, took nurse's training at Akron City Hospital but has not followed that work since her marriage. Her husband has been in the insurance business in Akron since 1945.

2. Ruth Anna Orton attended grade school in Boneta and married Samuel John Rufener, a stationary engineer, but divorced him after about 10 years of married life during which time four children were born.

   2-A. Donald F. Rufener is a truck driver.
   2-B. Lloyd Earl Rufener is a machine repairman at the Ohio Match Co. in Wadsworth.
   2-C. Anna Jean Rufener is a missionary and clerk at present located at Nassau in the Bahama Islands.
   2-D. Ethel Mae Rufener married Herman Likens who is at present serving in the U. S. A. Army.

   After divorcing Samuel Rufener in 1936, Ruth married Carl Horner in 1939 and he died on May 2, 1949. She then married his brother Robert Horner in December 1949. Both the Horners worked at the Ohio Injector Co. in Wadsworth, Ohio.

II. William Burt Orton (known as Burt) was born at Boneta and attended grade school there. He married Stella Hazen, the daughter of Wilson (Witt) and Mary Hazen of Sharon Center, and was a farmer all his life, living on various farms in Sharon township until he retired and moved to Sharon Center. Both he and his wife are buried in the cemetery at Sharon Center. Their three children were all born in Sharon township.

1. Guy E. Orton attended grade school at Spink's Corners and at Dove's Corners and high school at Sharon Center. He later attended The Actual Business College in Akron. He was associated for several years with the furnace and sheet metal concern of Orton and Ault in Wadsworth in which his uncle, Harvey Orton, was also a partner. After that firm was dissolved, Guy operated a similar business of his own in Wadsworth under the name of "City Heating Company" until that was finally sold. He then built several homes, one at a time, doing most of the work himself and selling them after completion. At present he is on a semi-retired basis, working with a building contractor in Wadsworth. His main hobbies have been fishing and baseball.

   He married Myrtle Chatfield, a daughter of the Jay Chatfields and granddaughter of the Elmer Chatfields who lived for many years on their farm about one half mile east of Boneta and one and one half miles west of Sharon Center.

2. Mary Orton (Mrs. Harry) Renner also attended grade school at Spink's Corners and at Dove's Corners in Sharon township and the Sharon Center High School. Her husband, Harry Renner (the son of L. H. Renner a well known cattle dealer who lived for many years at Renner's Corners 2½ miles north of Sharon Center) was a farmer and livestock dealer for about the first ten years of married life. He later worked for the Seiberling Rubber Co. in Barberton for 33 years until he retired on Sept. 1. 1958. They have the following five children:

   2-A. Virginia Renner married Lawrence Neff, the son of Clint Neff of Sharon township. She is a beauty shop operator in Wadsworth. Her husband operates his own electric and plumbing business in Sharon Center under the name of Neff and Clapp.

   2-B. Dorothy Renner married Sanford King, an auto body repairman and painter. She is at present living in Sharon Center and working in the office of the C. P. Hall Co., (rubber chemical brokers) in Akron.

   2-C. Harry B. Renner is manager of the Sohio Service station at Renner's Corners north of Sharon Center which is the junction of state routes #18 and #194.

   2-D. William G. Renner works for his brother-in-law at the Neff and Clapp Electric and Plumbing Co. in Sharon Center.

   2-E. Louise Renner married Richard Baltz who is a chemist at the Industrial Rayon Co. plant in Covington, Virginia.

   It should be stated that in spite of the Wadsworth addresses, the three children of Mary Orton Renner - Virginia, Harry B. and William G. all live on adjoining small acreages one mile north and about one half mile west of Sharon Center on what is known as Dutch Street Road.

3. Grace Orton (Mrs. Hubert E.) Winland was born on the farm of her parents when they lived east and north of Sharon Center, the location then being known as "Frog Hollow". She attended both grade and high school at Sharon Center, Kent State University at Kent, Ohio, for one year and Actual Business College in Akron. Her husband was born in Belmont Co., Ohio, (due east of Columbus) and served in the U. S. Army from 1917 to 1919 in World War I. He was an auto mechanic from then until World War II when he was government inspector of engines at Goodyear Aircraft Co. in Akron. After the war and until he retired in 1959 he was employed by the government in a similar capacity at various places in the United States. After leaving Akron about 1950 they moved first to Tulsa, Okla., then to Terre Haute, Ind. and finally to Seymour, Ind. where they were living when he retired. Since then they have been traveling and visiting their children but probably will eventually settle in Tulsa, Okla. Until then their mail will be forwarded from Sharon Center, Ohio. Their four children are as follows: -

3-A. Robert W. Winland attended school at Sharon Center and served with the U. S. Marines in World War II. He is making the military his career and at present is stationed at Ft. McClellan near Sacramento, Calif.

3-B. Lewis E. Winland attended school at Sharon Center and also served with the Marines in the Second World War. He is now a foreman at the Karman Rubber Co. in Copley, Ohio, about five miles east of Sharon Center.

3-C. H. Dale Winland attended school at Sharon Center and served in the U. S. Navy during World War II. He graduated with a masters degree from University of Tulsa (Oklahoma) and is employed by the Pan American Petroleum Co. of Midland, Texas.

3-D. Alan T. Winland graduated from Wadsworth High School and is now working at Goodyear Aircraft Co. in Akron, but is studying electronics, and eventually expects to get into television or similar work.

III. Harvey Lewis Orton was born at Boneta and attended grade schools there. After that he worked for a few years as a farm hand but soon went to Wadsworth where he made his home for the rest of his life. His first business venture was in the concern of "Orton and Ault", a furnace and sheet metal shop in Wadsworth. This was eventually dissolved and Harvey helped organize the Abrams-Orton Mfg. Co. that manufactured gas heating furnaces. His wife, the former Mary Merfield, was a Wadsworth girl who has lived all her life in the same house there that her father built when she was three years old and where she now lives alone. She has supplied a clipping from the Akron Beacon Journal daily paper of April 20, 1948 that reads as follows:

"Harvey L. Orton, 65, president of the Orton Heating Co. (Akron, O.) died at his home in Wadsworth Monday after a three week illness. Death was due to complications following an attack of influenza. Mr. Orton was born in Sharon township but spent most of his life in Wadsworth. He was always actively identified with the heating industry.

"More than 30 years ago he was one of the organizers of the Abrams-Orton Mfg. Co. of Wadsworth which manufactured gas furnaces. In 1923 he came to Akron to become identified with the Rybolt Furnace Co. which he later purchased. In 1936 he changed the name to the Orton Heating Co.

"He was chairman of the membership committee and a past president of the

National Sheet Metal Contractors' Association, also a past president and board member for many years of the Ohio State Sheet Metal Contractors' Association. He was a member of Trinity Evangelical and Reformed Church. He leaves his wife, Mary, and one son, William, of Akron. Burial will be in Wadsworth Woodlawn Cemetery."

3-A. William Orton attended school at Wadsworth and served in Germany in a Tank Division of the U. S. Army for nearly five years as a tank driver. He later joined his father in the heating business but after operating it for a few years following the death of his father, finally sold out. He is at present associated with the Janitrol Corp. in Mansfield, Ohio.

CHAPTER V

GENEALOGY Chart of Henry Francis (Frank) Derr, born 4-5-1847-died 6-30-1934.
Married 7-26-1877 to Beulah Spafford-born 10-3-1849-died 8-13-1925.

I. Vera Eloise Derr b. 6-22-1882 m. 7-31-1921 d. 7-5-1961 David R. Jones b. 6-10-1881 d. 7-28-1946	(1)(Francis)David Jones b. 1-17-1923 m. 8- 7-1948 Myrtle Corrigan b. 12-31-1928	(1) Gary D. Jones b. 5- 9-1952 (2) Mark D. Jones b. 1-15-1957
	(2) Lois Orline Jones b. 6-24-1924 m. 6- 3-1953 Donald E. Ormond b. 12-13-1931	(1) Robert D. Ormond b. 8-13-1954 (2) Nancy L. Ormond b. 2-12-1956 (3) Carol A. Ormond b. 5-25-1958 (4) James L. Ormond b. 10- 9-1959
II. Gladys Aletha Derr b. 10- 7-1885 m. 8-15-1920 d. 12-3-1965 James A. Brill b. 3- 9-1881 d. 4- 8-1960	(1) Beulah M. Brill b. 10-22-1921 m. 4- 5-1944 Gillis G. Olsen b. 3-19-1921	(1) Enid C. Olsen b. 6-27-1945 (2) Gregory G. Olsen b. 4-25-1952 (3) Mark C. Olsen b. 6-17-1954 (4) Gary I. Olsen b. 2- 1-1958
	(2) James C. Brill b. 1- 9-1925 m. 12-17-1950 Wreatha Nixon b. 5- 1-1931	(1) James W. Brill b. 1- 3-1952 (2) Kathy J. Brill b. 4- 8-1954 (3) Martin A. Brill b. 7- 6-1957 (4) Elaine A. Brill b. 6-29-1960
III. Orline Josephine Derr b. 9-19-1887 m. 2-22-1910 Chester W. Gilliard b. 1-27-1882 d. 3-28-1956	(1) Joyce B. Gilliard b. 9-22-1911 m. 7- 8-1934 Earl A. Bassett b. 3-30-1911 d. 12-15-1960	
	(2) Wanda R. Gilliard b. 4- 1-1919 m. 7- 3-1942 John E. Rapp b. 9- 3-1918	(1) Gregory D. Rapp b. 4-27-1946 (2) Sandra J. Rapp b. 3-10-1950

Family of Henry Francis (Frank) Derr and Beulah Spafford Derr.

As previously stated, Frank Derr spent several years gathering material for a Derr genealogy and family history. His initial effort was probably prompted by a report that came to him of the "fortune amounting to millions that awaited the descendants of the Beck family in Wurttemberg, Germany." While he apparently did not take this very seriously, it was only natural that he should make some investigation of his Beck ancestors to determine the possibility of a valid claim to the fortune. I well remember his discussion of this subject with my father on one of his visits to our home and believe that his correspondence with his niece, Mrs. Ada Beck Keller in 1921, as previously referred to, was part of his effort to obtain ancestral information. It seems that there was a missing generation that could not be traced so the matter was dropped, but as of March 19, 1931, he started writing up the family history from the material that he had available.

Then he continued with his own autobiography, the first part of which has already been given in previous pages where it helped to describe the married life of his parents. The remainder will now be given, with brief comments inserted in parentheses.

"I then secured a certificate to teach in Medina county and taught my first school at the age of nineteen (starting in the fall of 1866) at Stony Ridge in Wadsworth township. The term lasted sixty-three days and I received $63.00, or would have, if father had not kept $60.00 of it. I boarded around a week in a place with each family. There was one exception. One family was reported so dirty that if I went there I would get my full peck of dirt which was then reported to be the life limit. Well, I sidetracked that place and am still alive.

"In the spring of 1867 I hired out to Colonel Jonas Schoonover who lived seven miles north of Akron. He still had the Kentucky horse which he rode in the army. I once had the honor of riding it home, a round trip of thirty miles. He never used it for farming purposes. The road and the Ohio Canal divided his farm, and forty years later I rode on the B. & O. Railroad which had been built through the farm only a few rods from the house. I plowed about fifty acres for him that spring and summer. He complimented my work by saying - 'Frank, I never expect to see that land plowed so well again unless I plow it myself.' Father surely had taught me how to plow.

"The following winter (1867-68) I taught the school at this place which was then called Yellow Creek Basin and later was named Botzum, after Johnny Botzum who at that time kept a general store and saloon catering largely to the canal trade. The canal was then doing a 'Land-Office' business, with a boat nearly always in sight. Here I learned the full value of a mule, which was largely used in pulling the canal boats. When the driver yelled at him he pulled all he could but when he struck him with the whip, he pulled even more. Yellow Creek Basin was formed where the creek emptied into the canal and in places it was eight feet deep. As this was only about sixty rods from my schoolhouse, the larger boys and I used to go there skating at noon. At one time Sanford Brown, son of Jim Brown, a counterfeiter who had died the year before, broke through a thin place in the ice where the swift canal current flowed under it and where it was about eight feet deep. I crawled out on the thin ice and told the boys to hang onto my feet. But Sanford, by throwing himself forward and breaking the ice with his outstretched arms, finally got close enough so I could reach him. He was not the least bit excited but the others certainly were. He dried himself in Botzum's store and never suffered any bad effects from the accident. I later skated across the canal when the ice was so thin it shivered under my skates but I never tried it more than once.

"The next summer I hired out to John Hatch who lived four miles north of our Bear Swamp home. He had 150 acres of land that I worked while he was away doing carpenter work. He came home only over the week ends. This was the presidential year when General Grant was the candidate of the Republican Party which I espoused. Father was a strong Democrat and threatened to disinherit me if I voted the Republican ticket. He said I might vote it afterward, if I wished, but I voted for General Grant and father said I need not come home any more. That did not disturb me much as Fianna lived on the farm across the road and I could meet mother and the rest of the family there. I was not anxious to meet him and have a scene so I did not go home until the next year when he sent brother Jacob to Botzum to bring me back home. Well, the family war was over and there was 'peace ever afterward'.

"The next winter I again taught the Botzum school and then hired out to Nort Hardy near there for the summer of 1869. He kept a dairy of 42 cows which five of us usually milked. One Sunday morning he and his wife were slow in getting up so three of us milked 14 cows apiece. He had the agency for the Buckeye Mowing Machine and was home only during haying and harvest time. One event that year I distinctly remember. After school one November evening I was sent beyond Ghent, four miles away, for a doctor. The road led along Yellow Creek and wound in and out among the wooded hills which skirted the road. The Baker and Harris sawmills were over a mile apart on that road with no houses between them. It was believed that a lynx or some other wild animal of which dogs were afraid was staying in that section. When I returned and came to that most lonesome spot with the woods close to the road, quiet old Prince that I was riding all at once pricked up his ears and started off on a dead run. I at once thought of the lynx. As it was dark and I could see nothing, I let Prince do his best. He ran about half a mile, turned his head and looked back, then started off again at top speed for another quarter mile before stopping to look back again. Then he hung his head and walked on up the hill near Baker's sawmill but did not stop trembling for some time. I have always thought that he scented or saw that wild animal. When we got within a half mile of home Prince fell and threw me over his head but I was not hurt. The next morning Mr. Hardy wanted to know what had happened to Prince - his head was muddy.

"I have always regretted that while I lived in the Botzum district I did not know it was to become such a historical section. The Indian Highway leading from Cleveland to Akron and on to the Ohio River passed by two of my temporary homes. The Indians traveled over this several times a year. Boats on the Cuyahoga River used to make the trips to Old Portage, a couple of miles south of Botzum, and the smaller ones even to Akron, which earlier was not as large as Old Portage. And Portage Path (now a city street in Akron) over which the Indians carried their boats to the Tuscarawas River began here and ended at the north end of Summit Lake which is now within the city limits of Akron. New Portage, which was at the south end of the lake where the Tuscarawas River begins, is now the city of Kenmore. (Note - This has now been annexed to the city of Akron). Old Portage was quite a village during the War of 1812 and was a strategic point between Pittsburg and the Middle West. General Smith, who laid out the Smith Road (now Route 18 between Akron and Medina), had his headquarters here. Like Botzum, which had been laid out in town lots, Old Portage had only one store when I lived there. And parts of the valley farms where I used to work have since been transformed into a sewage disposal plant area for the city of Akron.

"One day late in August 1869, Albert Foster came from Copley to visit in the neighborhood and said he was leaving for the Preparatory School at Oberlin. That was just what I had wanted to do for some time. We arranged to room together and continued this until we were ready to enter the college. He was a good student

and a fine scholar and was one of the eight orators selected to appear at the Senior Preparatory Exhibition. Different ones said Foster would go through college but doubted if I would. Just the opposite was true, as his schooling ended that year. He married, went into business at Wadsworth, and later into school work. Seven years after leaving Oberlin he became my successor as superintendent of the Hudson schools.

"I found school life at Oberlin strenuous from the time I entered in September 1869 until I graduated from the college August 2, 1876. (Oberlin college records also show that Henry Francis Derr was given a Master of Arts degree in 1887). We had our five days of study and one day for rhetoricals. On Sunday we were required to attend two church services and each Thursday an afternoon religious lecture at the chapel. We had morning prayers at our boarding places and evening prayers at chapel and also our weekly class prayer meetings. If we missed any of the foregoing we had to report each as a failure. Unexcused failures counted against us and if there were too many it might lead to suspension from college.

"The college year consisted of three terms of twelve weeks each - fall, spring and summer, with twelve weeks vacation in the winter to allow self-supporting students to earn money - usually by teaching school. During the winter vacation I taught from twelve to sixteen weeks, getting back to school from four to six weeks late. I used to leave Oberlin for home on Friday or Saturday in November and begin teaching the following Monday. The winter term would end on Friday and I would be back in Oberlin on Monday. This I kept up for six years. During the winter I also taught singing or writing school and one winter I earned board and room rent by doing chores. I had about $275.00 saved up when I started to Oberlin and was about $300.00 in debt when I graduated.

"During the winter of 1876-77 I taught a six months' term at Western Star, two miles east of Wadsworth. Here both Josie and Jacob attended my school. The three of us rented a small house, Josie did the housekeeping and Jacob and I paid the rent and furnished the eatables. One of my honor pupils here was Edwin J. Young, who later became president of the Ohio Injector, Ohio Boxboard, Ohio Match, and Ohio Salt companies in Wadsworth and Rittman.

"In 1877 I applied for the job of superintendent of schools at Hudson, Ohio, but found out they objected to an unmarried man so I promised to overcome the objection if they hired me. I fulfilled my pledge by marrying Beulah E. Spafford on July 26, 1877, and started teaching in Hudson that fall. Here again brother Jacob attended my school. He made his home with us and later worked at the Straight Cheese Factory. Sister Josie worked for Dr. Rogers and we saw her quite often.

"One day in the spring of 1880 the school board president from Monroeville, Ohio, visited my school and after making a favorable report to the board members on his return I was selected at a salary of $1,000.00, an increase of $250 over my Hudson salary. The board hired my strongest competitor as principal of the high school. He was a weak disciplinarian and not strong in other ways. He spent the year undermining and underbidding me for the next year's work and as a result neither of us were hired, altho it took some eighty ballots by the board to select my successor.

"From Monroeville I next went to Mason, Michigan, where I was superintendent of schools for five years, being the only one up until that time who had remained there over two years. Here I had two school buildings and nine teachers. One

summer I was an instructor in County Institute work and one winter on a township lecture course. I also wrote an article on the Michigan School System for the Ohio Educational Monthly. Here Vera was born on June 22, 1882, and Gladys on Oct. 7, 1885.

"But my ambition was to hold a more responsible position which I felt I could fill. Mason had a population of about 2,000 and I decided to make application in cities of not less than 9,000. One of my applications went to Elgin, Ill., then a city of 14,000, but it soon came back with a letter stating they paid $1,100 per year and they already had 45 applicants. This was not encouraging but I decided to go there in person to see the school board members. I interviewed five of them and was eventually hired at $1,500 after they had sent a representative to Mason to check the schools and my record there. I started with nine school buildings and forty teachers in Elgin. Before leaving ten years later there were fourteen buildings and eighty-eight teachers and my salary had been raised to $2,000. But a group of influential women from the local Woman's Club gradually took over control of the school board and meddled with the teachers and inside school affairs. A lack of harmony on the board finally lost me my position and left me with a nervous breakdown. Here Orline had been born on Sept. 19, 1887.

"After an interim of one year which I spent in the real estate and insurance business in the firm of Weld and Derr, I was called to be superintendent of the public schools of DeKalb, Illinois. This seemed like play work as compared with the grind at Elgin. We had rhetoricals in the high school there every Friday afternoon that consisted of declamations, essays, orations, debates, music, and practice in parliamentary law. The last halfhour was devoted to addresses by outside talent on topics of general interest having an educational value. During my last year there we had a lecture course of five numbers which included such talent as Will Carleton, the poet, and Booker T. Washington, the Negro educationalist who was principal of Tuskegee Normal School of Alabama.

"Our whole family called on Will Carleton at his hotel before the lecture. Beulah told him that Gladys had composed a few poems and he wanted her to recite several. She was a little timid and did not like to do this but he said he would recite a few of his if she would then give a couple of hers. She finally consented and after she recited two or three he asked her to repeat one of them. After she had finished he said 'Send me that one and others that you may compose and I will send you my magazine.' Sometime later one did appear in 'The Everywhere'. A few months later when he passed through DeKalb on his way to a neighboring city, he stopped off and made us a four-hour call. It was a never-to-be-forgotten visit.

"After three years in DeKalb the public schools were turned over to Northern Illinois Normal University for use as a training school. My position needed a person with special training for normal school work and a professor from the university faculty was appointed so I was out of a job. We moved to Fostoria on August 31, 1899, where I took the agency for a line of business and sermon files and bookcases. This was a new kind of work for me for which I had no liking and for which there was little demand. Within a year the producing company failed and I was again out of work.

"I was then 52 years old with a family of five to support, with a partial nervous breakdown, and without a business. (This was the time the family moved into Jonas Beck's home and shared it with him. Following is part of the newspaper clipping obituary of Mary (Mrs. Jonas) Beck. 'Mary Beck was born in Wilmington, Delaware, May 10, 1828, and died in Fostoria, Ohio, July 8, 1890.

She was married to Jonas Beck (brother of Rachel Beck) on October 17, 1850 in Philadelphia, Pa., and in 1856 they came to Ohio and settled in Fostoria'.) Those were the dark days, the days of mental torture, the days that tried my faith almost to the breaking point. No income, no work, but plenty of time to brood and worry. I think I must have lived then on the prayers of a few faithful friends in Elgin who knew my trying conditions.

"Several months later, one of my brother deacons of the Elgin church called on me. He was agent for an Elgin Rug Co. that made fluff rugs from worn-out ingrain carpet and was doing fairly well. He induced me to take up the same line of work and helped me one day in Fostoria. Starting in January, 1901, I canvassed Fostoria and later the city of Findlay. As Fostoria was the center of population of my territory, and well known, I chose as my business name 'The Fostoria Rug Man' and have used it ever since. In a few years I was known by that name in every one of the thirty or more cities and towns I worked. I think the name was worth at least $200 per year in my business. Up to 1930, when during the winter I sold 60 copies of 'Evolution Disproved', this has been my only business.

"After a lingering illness of about five months my wife died on Aug. 13, 1925. In November of that same year, Gladys and her family moved to St. Petersburg, Florida. Since then I have kept 'Bachelor's Hall' in one room in my house and have been my own cook and housekeeper. The other six rooms have been rented and I have always been fortunate in having pleasant and prompt-paying renters.

"At the election of officers for our church for 1931, I was chosen as assistant to the pastor and have made about 300 church calls annually for a number of years. To my bicycle, which I still ride, must be given much of the credit. I know where nearly every one of our 400 members live and can give about 80% of the addresses from memory. As financial secretary for about 20 years, I have kept the church membership record and have been able to assist each one of our recent pastors. I still sing in the church choir.

"Just now I am much interested in my Sunday School class of fifteen-year-old boys and in the Christian Endeavor Society. On our Temperance Day, we had 36 present and we had a fine discussion of the "Wet and Dry" question. This is one of my favorite subjects and 'No Future Wars' is another. Letter writing, of which I do considerable, is a pastime but I cannot say that I delight in it. But I have not missed writing a long letter to Gladys and family each Monday for more than five years.

"In thinking over my past life, I find my greatest satisfaction is not in the positions and places of honor that I may have occupied, but in the good I may have done in performance of my Christian duties as I think Jesus would have done if he had been in my place. I have concluded that to be a true follower of Christ is goodness and greatness. It consists in the continued performance of the small duties that are often distasteful. 'Trust in the Lord and do good' and 'Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him' are my favorite mottoes. Psalm 37. I hope my readers will adopt these."

Orline Derr Gilliard has made the following notation on one of the pages of her father's manuscript. - "This biography was probably finished in 1933. Father died on June 30, 1934, and was still teaching a Sunday School class at that time. He died very suddenly - having ridden his bicycle that morning".

Beulah Electa Spafford, wife of Frank Derr, was born at West Richfield, Ohio, the daughter of Martin Spafford (born 10-25-1808, died 7-13-1887) who was married 1-18-1836 at Copley, Ohio to Mary Brown (born 10-25-1808, died 10-9-1882). Martin Spafford's father was Jacob Spafford, son of Revolutionary War General Jonathan Spafford and his wife Christian Jewell. His (Martin's) mother was Electa Chittenden, daughter of Thomas Chittenden, who served in the Revolutionary War and was governor of Vermont 1778-1796. She was a sister of Martin Chittenden, the governor of Vermont 1813-1814. General Jonathan Spafford and Thomas Chittenden in 1774 started the settlement of Williston, Vermont (near Burlington).

This information was taken from a genealogy chart of Joyce Gilliard which she made up as a high school project from information obtained in the Spafford Family Genealogy book, now the property of Vera Derr Jones. From it we find that Martin Spafford, father of Beulah Spafford (Mrs. Frank) Derr, was a brother of Noah Spafford, the grandfather of Jennie Spafford (Mrs. George Mandus) Derr. (See Chapter VII)

Children of Frank (Henry Francis) Derr.

I. Vera Eloise Derr was born in Mason, Mich., and graduated from Fostoria, Ohio, High School, then taught second and third grades in the Fostoria schools for six years. She then attended the American School of Osteopathy from which she graduated in 1911, and practiced her profession in Fostoria until she married David Raymond Jones. He was born in Cleveland, where he attended high school and later worked as a chemist in the laboratory of the American Steel and Wire Co. for most of his life. He was a member of the Baptist church and the Masonic Lodge. Since his death and the marriages of their two children, Vera has been living alone in their family home. Her time is spent in reading, Baptist church activities, and the Eastern Star Lodge.

Children of Vera and David R. Jones -

1. (Francis) David Jones graduated from East Technical High School in Cleveland where he majored in chemistry. As a result of tests taken when he was drafted into the army, he was sent to Penn State College where he studied electrical engineering. But before the course was finished the army decided it had enough engineers so sent him back to the regular army. He was sent to France where he arrived the day before V.E. Day. Then he was to be sent to Japan but the day before he was scheduled to sail V.J. Day was announced. He now works in the Industrial Engineering Dept. of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co., but also does outside work and did the photographic work and narration for a film showing the inside and outside operations of the company.

   David married Myrtle Corrigan, the daughter of Isabelle Lynn and Joseph Corrigan.

2. Lois Orline Jones upon graduating from high school received a scholarship at Fenn College in Cleveland. While there she received a scholarship from Kent State University at Kent, Ohio, where she obtained a Master's degree in psychology. Her first position was with the Delaware State School for Girls at Delaware, Ohio. From there she went to work in a school for retarded pupils at Detroit, Mich. After receiving a scholarship at the University of Kansas,

Lawrence, Kansas, and studying there for a year, she married Donald Eugene Ormond, a fellow student and the son of Ruth and George Eugene Ormond. He had entered school there in 1948 but before graduating in 1957 (Phi Beta Kappa) as a chemistry major he took time out to serve with the army in Korea. He is now studying for his Ph. D. in chemistry with emphasis on radio chemistry, and is teaching part time.

II. Gladys Aletha Derr (Mrs. James A.) Brill was born in Mason, Mich., attended school in Elgin and DeKalb, Ill., and also in Fostoria, Ohio, but was unable to graduate from high school because of poor health. She did graduate from Haroff School of Expression in Cleveland and later studied elocution and speech at the New York City Y.W.C.A. and at Columbia University.

She returned to Ohio to teach elocution and expression, first in Fostoria and later at the Y.W.C.A. in Cleveland where for a time she was also secretary. She then went to Washington, D. C., to serve as a pastor's assistant and while there met her future husband, who was an architect. After their marriage they lived in Fostoria for about five years. During this time he was a building contractor, one of his buildings being the large school at Van Lue, a village about fifteen miles south and west of Fostoria. They moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, where he continued in the contractor business until poor health forced him to retire.

He was born at Zepp, Shenandoah county, Virginia, where he went to a one-room country school. He entered the navy on Oct. 14, 1902, and while in that service studied marine engineering. He later took courses with International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pa. For a number of years his hands were badly crippled by arthritis, then early in 1960 he entered a sanatorium at Tampa, Fla. for treatment of a lung disorder. A few weeks after being admitted he died from the effects of a stroke.

For many years Gladys has been confined to a wheel chair and hospital-type bed as the result of a broken hip about 1950, and previously having arthritis. She is also afflicted with a bad heart condition. Up until the time that her husband went to the sanatorium, the two of them, altho badly crippled, had been able to get along together in their small home, but since then she has been living with her daughter Beulah.

One of her pastimes has been the writing of poetry and the following poem, which was published in the June 1953 Father's Day issue of "Christian Herald" magazine, deserves space here to illustrate the talent of one of our family.

My Father.

I did not know when I was young
How very much my father cared -
How all the problems of my youth
Were by him wisely, gladly shared.

I did not know, I could not know
How many thoughtful hours he spent
Planning and praying for my good,
As on my way I blithely went.

The years have passed, a parent now,
I watch my children live and grow.
The love my father gave to me,
At last I know - ah, yes, I know.

Children of Gladys and James A. Brill -

1. Beulah M. Brill (Mrs. Gillis G.) Olsen was born in Fostoria, Ohio, and attended school in St. Petersburg, Fla. She served for six months as a W.A.A.C. at Ft. Benning, Ga., while her husband was in army service in World War II. Gillis G. Olsen was born at Mt. Vernon, N. Y. and graduated in 1942 from Marshall College, Huntington, W. Va. He went overseas in 1944 with the 26th infantry division of Gen. Patton's 3rd Army and served as a lieutenant in the famous Battle of the Bulge. After leaving the army he entered into the general contracting business but has been forced to retire from that for health reasons, apparently as a result of war service. During his illness and recovery Beulah has been working part time for a telephone company. Recent reports indicate that her husband is able to work again.

2. James C. Brill was born in Fostoria just before his parents moved to Florida. He joined the marines at the age of 17 and saw service overseas, advancing to the rank of corporal. After leaving that service he returned to St. Petersburg to attend junior college. Then he joined the Air Force and rose to the rank of lieutenant. Following that he went into the insurance business in St. Petersburg and then to a training school in Minneapolis. From there he went to work for Remington-Rand as maintenance engineer for their electronic computing machine (electric-brain) at the Cannon Cotton Mills in North Carolina. He married Wreatha Nixon, who was born at Oldtown, Md.

III. Orline Josephine Derr (Mrs. Chester W.) Gilliard was born in Elgin, Ill., and graduated from high school there. Music in the form of piano and organ playing and teaching has been her main hobby and also a business with her throughout her life. When she was twelve years old she started giving piano lessons to a neighbor girl at ten cents per lesson. After she graduated from high school she studied piano under Wilson G. Smith in Cleveland, then traveled with a concert company for a while until she was married. She began playing the organ for one of the Fostoria churches at the age of 19, and except for the time out when her two daughters were born has been a church organist ever since. For over 25 years she has been and still is organist of her church (First Church of Christ). At one time she was giving lessons to as many as 60 pupils and still (1960) has 24 pupils who come to her house for lessons. That, with the church organ work, has kept her occupied since the death of her husband in 1956. She lives alone in the home they occupied most of their married life.

Her husband, Chester W. Gilliard, was born on a farm near Fostoria. He attended "Tinney Select School" after completing the course in a rural grade school. He worked for a while in the oil fields of western Ohio, then went back to Fostoria to sell pianos. Eventually he and another piano salesman formed the Lehman and Gilliard Music Store in Fostoria that operated until dissolved about 1910 when "Chet" (as Chester was known) was married. He then started his own music store which he maintained for about 35 years. After that and until his death he worked from his home as a piano tuner and instrument repairman. Chet was a member of the Civil Service Commission in Fostoria from 1946 until the time of his death - a period of 10 years.

The following is copied from one of Orline's letters - "It is odd, when one comes to think of it, how we meet our mates. I met Chet when I was demonstrating pianos for the local music store when he was a salesman there. This was before I finished high school. Also I played for the first picture show that was ever in Fostoria."

Chet's father was Alfred Gilliard who married Katherine Neederhouser and his grandfather was John Gilliard, a horseman born in France who married Mary Frete. It is interesting to learn that Chet's other grandfather, Jacob Neederhouser, married Elizabeth Spafford but it is not known if she is of the same family as Beulah Spafford (Orline's mother).

Children of Orline and Chester W. Gilliard.

1. Joyce Beulah Gilliard was born in Fostoria and following her graduation from high school there she worked in the Fostoria office of the Ohio Farmers and Grain Assoc. until her marriage to Carl A. Bassett.

   He was born in Tiffin, Ohio, where he went to high school and afterwards worked in the J. C. Penney store. Following marriage they moved to Van Wert, Ohio, where he was assistant manager of the J. C. Penney store, and in 1940 was hired as manager of the Jerrold Dress shop there. When the war started he joined the Seebees but changed to the Navy and was sent to California where he became "Store-keeper First Class". In the meantime they had sold the Van Wert home and Joyce had joined him in California.

   For a while after leaving the service, he was manager of the dress department in a San Francisco department store. They finally felt he could do better for himself, so he became salesman for several lines of dresses and with Joyce usually accompanying him, traveled up and down the west coast, calling on buyers in dress and department stores. He did so well that they soon opened a sample display office in San Francisco where the buyers called to make selection of garments. By 1957 they needed more help and at that time Joyce's sister and husband joined them to form the partnership of Bassett and Rapp with office and display room at 821 Market St. in the Pacific Bldg. in downtown San Francisco. At present (early 1960) the Bassetts have no children.

2. Wanda Ruth Gilliard was born in Fostoria where she graduated from high school, then attended and graduated from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, where she met her future husband, John Rapp. She worked for a year after graduation at Wright Field near Dayton, Ohio, before going to California to be married.

   John E. Rapp attended Miami University for three years then left school some time before war started and began his training in the Air Force at Travis Air Base in Sacramento, Calif. After the war started he was sent to various camps in this country and finally overseas. There he flew seventy bombing missions and was eventually advanced to the rank of major and later was awarded the "Distinguished Flying Cross" for his work in the Air Corps. At the close of the war they moved to Lafayette, Ind., where he studied Aeronautical Engineering and graduated in 1949. He then spent a year in research for Owens-Corning

Fiberglass Co. at Newark, Ohio. From there they moved to Toledo, Ohio, lived one and a half years in Detroit, followed by two years, 1955 to 1957, working for the Gustin-Bacon Co. in Kansas City, Mo. From there they moved to California (see above) to form a business partnership with Joyce and Earl Bassett.

Wanda and John Rapp have two children, Gregory and Sandra, both born at Fostoria, Ohio.

CHAPTER VI

GENEALOGY Chart of Hettie Derr Nicholls-born 3-19-1850 - died 7-5-1896
Married 10-22-1877 to Eleazer Nicholls - born 1-31-1851 - died 5-17-1915.

I. Charles Ross Nicholls b. 12- 8-1879 d. 5-28-1947	(1)Wayne L. Nicholls b. 5-15-1904 d. 12-30-1944 m. 7- 7-1923 Hallie Oliver b. 2-18-1906	(1)Janet C. Nicholls b. 10-12-1933 m. 7-29-1950 Dean Damery b. 2-20-1927	(1)Linnett Damery b. 4- 7-1952 (2)Brent Damery b. 9-29-1954
		(2)Mary Ann Nicholls b. 9- 2-1938 m. 6- -1956 Danny Byard b.	(1)Danny Byard, Jr. b. 12-27-1957
		(3)(Wayne)Leon Nicholls b. 5-26-1940 m. 6- 5-1959 Betty Miller b.	
		(4)Richard O. Nicholls b. 9-29-1944	
	(2)Floyd R. Nicholls - b. 4-9-1908 - d. 11-20-1913		
m. 3-18-1903 Eva Lenora Crow b. 1- 9-1883 d. 9-28-1957	(3)Mary E. Nicholls b. 1-20-1910 d. 7-27-1937 m. 12-24-1931 Herbert Harbarger b. 10-12-1907	(1)Patricia K. Harbarger b. 6- 5-1936 m. Tom Debrun b.	(1)Dianna Hale Debrun b. 3-12-1959
	(4)Lynn O. Nicholls b. 9-19-1915 m. 1935 - Helen Tintori-divorced 1945 m. 2-12-1949 Wanda Miller b. 10-19-1930	(1)Barbara Jean Nicholls b. 1-10-1936 m. 8-23-1958 Marion Fiorillo b. 1-10-1936 (1)Dianna Lynn Nicholls b. 1-19-1950	
	(5)Ruby E. Nicholls b. 7-11-1925 m. 8-15-1943 Leonard Naber b. 11-30-1921	(1)Ronald E. Naber b. 4- 9-1946 (2)Donald E. Naber b. 6-10-1948 (3)Patricia A. Naber b. 7- 9-1952	
II. Mabel J. Nicholls b. 11-16-1882 - d. 1-4-1904 (She was twin sister of Mary)			
III. Mary E. Nicholls b. 11-16-1882 d. 2-11-1952 m. 11-16-1908 S. Bert Dillehunt b. 12-10-1881	(1)Harold Q. Dillehunt b. 9-12-1909 m. 9- 5-1937 Marian L. Miller b. 12-25-1915	(1)Lucy E. Dillehunt b. 7- 4-1938 m. 11-11-1957 Richard D. Kahlstrom b. 8-12-1936	(1)Richard A. Kahlstrom b. 11-13-1958 (2)Lynda E. Kahlstrom b. 12-29-1959
		(2)Rosemary L. Dillehunt b. 9-21-1942	
		(3)Harold Q. Dillehunt, Jr. b. 8-20-1943	
	(2)Dorothy J. Dillehunt b. 9-12-1911 m. 5-16-1935 F. Scott Hertenstein b. 7-14-1913	(1)H. Joan Hertenstein b. 12-14-1936 m. V. Roy Decker b.	(1)Michael Decker b. 7-20-1956

Continued on next page.

GENEALOGY Chart of Hettie Derr Nicholls - Continued

Mary E. Nicholls m. 11-16-1908 S. Bert Dillehunt Continued	(3)Lucy E. Dillehunt b. 9- 3-1913 m. 5- 1-1937 William Contento b. 4-13-1914	(1)William B. Contento, Jr. b. 3-10-1939 (2)Roger Contento b. 6- 9-1941 (3)Richard J. Contento b. 9-18-1952	
	(4)Helen E. Dillehunt b. 2-18-1918 m. 9- 1-1941 Anthony Garrick b. 10-12-1914	(1)Michael A. Garrick b. 6-14-1944 (2)Susan Garrick b. 11-22-1948 (3)Nancy Garrick b. 12- 5-1951	
	(5)Richard M. Dillehunt b. 9-20-1923 m. 12-10-1942 Marjorie M. Smullen b. 3- 4-1925	(1)Donald D. Dillehunt b. 12-10-1943 (2)Charles R. Dillehunt b. 11-15-1945	
	(6)Donald B. Dillehunt b. 11-24-1926 m. 5-17-1953 Nina Darlene Ernst b. 6-19-1932	(1)C. Page Dillehunt b. 1-18-1960	
IV. Claire V. Nicholls b. 8-30-1884 m. 3-22-1908 d. 12-24-1961 Maude L. Botoner b. 10-17-1888	(1)Walter C. Nicholls b. 1- 6-1910 d. 11-13-1942 m. 7- 7-1929 Opal P. Gemmer b. 1-23-1910	(1)Crystal Nicholls b. 9-21-1936 m. 8- 3-1956 David Trueblood b. 4- 3-1937 (2)Cheri Nicholls b. 9- 6-1939	
	(2)Helen E. Nicholls b. 8-26-1911 m. 4-20-1930 Donald King b. 11-20-1908	(1)Gene King b. 9-24-1931 m. 8- 1950 Bernita L. Harrell b. 7-13-1932	(1)Rita K. King b. 7-10-1954 (2)Randy G. King b. 1-23-1956 (3)Renae K. King b. 6-11-1957
		(2)Jack King b. 2-19-1934 m. 2- 1956 Patricia A. Taylor b. 1-25-1937	
		(3)Rex King b. 3- 9-1936 m. 4- 1956 Helen L. Bottrell b. 11-10-1936	(1)Scott D. King b. 3-10-1958
	(3)Dale G. Nicholls b. 2- 8-1917 m. 12-17-1938 Betty Jane Kreher b. 12-16-1919	(1)Brenda C. Nicholls b. 11-17-1946	

Family of Hettie Derr (Mrs. Eleazer) Nicholls.

Practically all the information available about the early life of Hettie Derr is given in a letter dated Sept. 16, 1932, as written by Frank Derr to his brother Jacob while they were compiling details for the Derr family history. It reads as follows - "Sister Hettie was born in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, Pa., in 1850. Our family came to Ohio in 1853 and settled on the Bear Swamp farm in 1854. She attended the district school at what is now Boneta until she was fourteen years old, when she went to live with the George Baughman family whose home was about three miles southeast of Wadsworth. The house was located on a lane half way between the Silver Creek and Western Star roads, and more than half a mile from any other house. How she could endure to live there for four years with no one but a couple over fifty years old I never could understand. But she stayed until she was eighteen and earned her clothes and schooling. As was the custom at that time, she received as compensation when she returned home, a complete bed outfit and a cow.

"I saw little of her from the time she was fourteen until after I went to Oberlin in the fall of 1869. While there my roommate, Albert Foster, and I rented a house and his sister' Lucy and Hettie took care of it and attended Union school. Later on Hettie and I continued our education there for another year by renting rooms for housekeeping. In 1876 after I graduated she went to Blue Mound, Ill., and lived with the Joe Baughmans."

It is quite likely that the George and Joe Baughmans were related to the Seth Baughmans of Wadsworth who were in some way related to Rachel Beck Derr, Hettie's mother.

The Oberlin College catalog of graduates and former students as published in 1908 lists Hettie Derr from Sharon, Ohio as enrolled in the preparatory school (Oberlin Academy) from 1872 to 1874. She taught school at the old Blue Mound school that winter of 1876-1877 after going there from Oberlin and was married on Oct. 22, 1877 to Eleazer Nicholls of Blue Mound. They lived on their farm two miles directly east of Blue Mound, where Claire Nicholls now lives, all of their married life.

Eleazer Nicholls was one of the nine children of Washington Luther Nicholls (born 3-21-1821 - died 4-23-1875) and his wife Mary House Nicholls (born 11-24-1826 - died 3-8-1905). The other children were Albert, Sarah (who married Levi, a son of the Joe Baughmans), George, Naomi (who married James Damery, a brother of Dean Damery's grandfather), Ross, Althea (who married Thomas J. Wright), Elton, and Orin. Mary House Nicholls was related to the House family of Medina county, Ohio.

Both Hettie and Eleazer are buried in the Bethel Methodist church cemetery.

Children of Hettie Derr Nicholls and Eleazer Nicholls.

I. Charles Ross Nicholls farmed in the vicinity of Blue Mound all his life. The five children of Charles and Eva Crow Nicholls are -

1. Wayne L. Nicholls was a farmer and lived at the edge of Blue Mound where he died suddenly as the result of a blood clot following a major operation when he was 40 years old. His wife, the former Hallie Oliver, now lives in Blue Mound and is cashier for the Jewel-Eisner Grocery Co. in Decatur. Their four children are -

1-A. Janet E. Nicholls, wife of Dean Damery who works for the Caterpillar Tractor Co. in Decatur.

1-B. Mary Ann Nicholls, wife of Danny Byard who is a sky diver with the army paratroopers stationed at Fort Bragg, N. C.

1-C. (Wayne) Leon Nicholls who works for Mueller Brass Co. in Decatur, but at present he and his wife live with his mother in Blue Mound.

1-D. Richard O. Nicholls who lives with his mother and attends high school in Blue Mound.

2. Floyd R. Nicholls died when 5½ years old.

3. Mary E. Nicholls died after being married about 5½ years to Herbert Harbarger, who is now owner of the Ford agency and garage at Stonington a few miles south of Blue Mound. They had one daughter.

3-A. Patricia K. Harbarger, wife of Tom Debrun, who is an installer of telephone switchboards for Western Electric Co.

4. Lynn O. Nicholls who has worked for General Electric Co. in Decatur since 1950 and lives in his mother's house which was purchased from the estate after she died. He and his first wife had one daughter.

4-A. Barbara Jean Nicholls, the wife of Marion Fiorillo who is at present attending college and plans to become a lawyer.

5. Ruby E. Nicholls, the wife of Leonard L. Naber, who works for the Mississippi Valley Construction Co. of Blue Mound.

II. Mabel J. Nicholls, the twin sister of Mary, died of typhoid fever at age 21.

III. Mary E. Nicholls, the wife of S. Bert Dillehunt, lived with her husband on the old Dillehunt farm about four miles northeast of Blue Mound until they quit farming in 1940. She was afflicted with arthritis about 1914 and the last 15 or 20 years of her life were spent in a wheel chair at the home of her daughter, Lucy, near Albany, N. Y. Mary is buried in Memory Gardens, Albany, N. Y. Her husband, Bert, is now living at Bremerton, Washington Rt. #1 - Box 926.

Their six children are -

1. Harold Q. Dillehunt, born in Blue Mound, married Marian L. Miller who was born at Great Falls, Montana. They recently moved from Moravia, Cal., to Menlo Park, Cal., where he is Western Division circulation manager of Nation's Business magazine published by the United States Chamber of Commerce. Their married daughter is -

1-A. Lucy Ellen Dillehunt was born at Wilmar, Cal., and married Richard Donald Kahlstrom who was born at Chicago, Ill. Their son, Richard Allen Kahlstrom, was born at San Gabriel, Cal., and daughter, Lynda Ellen Kahlstrom, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, where they now live.

2. Dorothy J. Dillehunt after finishing high school took a course in cosmetology and later married Scott Hertenstein. Other details are not available.

3. Lucy Eleanor Dillehunt, wife of William Contento, born at Albany, N. Y. who is senior foreman at Norman's Kill Farm Dairy in Albany, N. Y. Their oldest son, William, Jr., is now in the Navy Air Corps.

4. Helen E. Dillehunt was born at St. Petersburg, Florida, while her parents were there for a winter vacation. She left Blue Mound in 1938, graduated as a registered nurse from Bellevue Hospital in New York City in Sept. 1941, the same month she was married to Anthony C. Garrick. He was born at Perry, N. Y. and served in the Army Medical Air Corps both in this country and in France, from April 1941 to Dec. 1945. Helen traveled with her husband while he was in service in this country and did nursing in the states of Oregon, Washington, Massachusetts and New York.

   After leaving the service they moved to Chicago where Anthony received his B. A. degree in Business Administration in 1948 and his Master's degree in Hospital Administration in 1949. During that time Helen did part-time general duty at Passevant Memorial Hospital in Chicago. From there they moved to Troy, N. Y. where he was assistant administrator of Good Samaritan Hospital. Then in 1954 they moved to Arizona where he became Administrator of the State T. B. Hospital of Arizona at Tempe. He is also doing some part-time work toward a Ph. D. degree at Arizona State University in Tempe. Helen has been employed since 1945 as an office nurse by a general practice doctor in Phoenix. Their son was born in Portland, Oregon and the two daughters at Troy, N.Y.

5. Richard M. Dillehunt has his own general insurance business in Phoenix, Ariz., but further details are not available.

6. Donald B. Dillehunt graduated from high school in 1944, then worked for the U. S. Post Office, New York Central railroad, and at other part-time jobs before and during his two years of study in Morrisville Agricultural and Technical Institute at Morrisville. He served in the U. S. Navy only two months before receiving his medical discharge. Since graduation from Morrisville in 1948, Donald has worked for American Airlines at Albany, N. Y., Tulsa, Okla., Cleveland, Ohio, and at Chicago, Ill. where he is still working. His wife, the former Nina Darlene Ernst was born at Gothenberg, Nebraska and their son was born in Chicago.

IV. Claire V. Nicholls has been a farmer near Blue Mound all his life. He is now retired and lives with his wife on the farm previously owned and operated by his parents. The old home has been remodeled and modernized but the land is rented, altho Claire helps out with the work during the planting and harvesting season. In August of 1960 he underwent a major surgery operation but latest reports available indicate he is slowly regaining his normal health. He married the former Maude Botoner who was also born and raised near Blue Mound. Her father, Henry Botoner was born 1-9-1858 and died 11-2-1921. Her mother, the former Dora E. Gabriel was born 10-17-1864 and died 10-28-1933. Both are buried in the Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery. Her grandparents are also both buried in the Bethel Methodist Church cemetery. (This is 2 miles north and 1 mile east of Blue Mound on Route 48). Her grandmother Jane Gabriel died 12-15-1909 at the age of 84 years, and her grandfather Thomas Gabriel died 10-13-1900 at the age of 72 years. Both came from Ireland, the boat trip taking four weeks and Jane was so sick she was nearly thrown overboard for dead.

The children of Claire and Maud Nicholls.

1. Walter C. Nicholls was a farmer living near Macon, Ill., and was killed in a farm tractor accident when only about 32 years old. His wife Opal lived in the town of Macon for a number of years but recently moved back onto the farm and makes her home there. The two daughters are: -

   1-A. Crystal Nicholls (Mrs. David)Trueblood, who works at the Decatur Finance Co. and her husband is a draftsman at the Leader Iron Works in Decatur.

   1-B. Cheri Nicholls, who is the private secretary for the assistant manager of the Borg-Warner Co. in Decatur.

2. Helen E. Nicholls married Donald King, a farmer living near Blue Mound. It was on this farm that Jacob H. Derr and Cain Hartman worked during the early summer of 1877 before they left for Missouri to work there in the harvest fields. (See chapter IX) Their children are: -

   2-A. Gene King, who is manager of the grain elevator at Clinton, Ill.

   2-B. Jack King who is assistant manager of the grain elevator at Macon, Ill.

   2-C. Rex King who went to Illinois State Normal School at Normal, Ill. and now teaches school in Decatur, but lives on a farm between Blue Mound and Decatur.

3. Dale G. Nicholls is owner and operator of the Buick Automobile Agency in Columbia, Missouri.

CHAPTER VII

Genealogy Chart of George Mandus Derr - born 11-17-1852-died 10-9-23
Married 4-2-1885 to Jenny Jeanette Spafford born 4-3-1855-died 4-1-1938.

I. (Rachel) Alice Derr b. 5-21-1886 m. 7-16-1913 d. 11-13-1962 Frank L. Hastings b. 5-26-1883 d. 6-31-1957	(1)Marjorie F. Hastings b. 4-22-1914 m. 9- 6-1937 Eugene D. Bingham b. 5-11-1911	(1)Roberta I. Bingham b. 12- 2-1944 (2)Beverly G. Bingham b. 11-21-1947
	(2)Mildred A. Hastings b. 7- 3-1915 m. 10-30-1937 Albert W. Smeins b. 1-10-1910	(1)Janet Smeins b. 10- 6-1943
	(3)Lewis D. Hastings b. 8-10-1916 m. 5- 6-1944 Jeanette Larson b. 4- 1-1922	(1)David Hastings b. 2-23-1947 (2)Ruth Hastings b. 5- 1-1950
	(4)Carol J. Hastings b. 10-23-1917	
	(5)Muriel C. Hastings b. 3-15-1919 m. 4-17-1941 John Bittenbender b. 4- 1-1922	(1)Paul Bittenbender b. 1-20-1946 (2)Douglas Bittenbender b. 6-30-1949
	(6)Delbert C. Hastings b. 12-15-1920 m. 8-10-1947 Ellen Hainer b. 9- 9-1927	(1)Craig Hastings b. 1-24-1949 (2)Nancy Hastings b. 5-25-1951
	(7)Maurice M. Hastings b. 10-31-1926 m. 9-17-1955 Norma Berg b. 9-19-1926	(1)Randolph Hastings b. 9-11-1956 (2)Diane Hastings b. 12-27-1957
II. Olive M. Derr b. 10-28-1890 m. 8-19-1918 M. O. Johnson b. 1- 7-1891 d. 3-15-1932	(1)Carlton C. Johnson b. 5- 3-1922 d. 7-2-1944	
	(2)B. Thayne Johnson b. 7-18-1926 m. 7- 7-1950 Elizabeth Piggott b. 2- 5-1928	(1)Mary E. Johnson b. 4-11-1955 (2)Gene T. Johnson b. 8-10-1957
III. Jeanette Spafford Derr b. 10-15-1891 m. 6- 9-1927 Alvin R. Lidel b. 10-26-1893	(1)E. Clare Lidel b. 11- 9-1928 m. 3-25-1951 Vivian Eikanas b. 3- 5-1930	(1)Roxan K. Lidel b. 11-28-1954 (2)Pamela J. Lidel b. 2-10-1957 (3)Troy W. Lidel b. 9-15-1959
	(2)Philip D. Lidel b. 2- 9-1934 m. 6-14-1959 Virginia H. Waage b. 12-24-1936	

Continued next page.

Genealogy Chart of George Mandus Derr - Continued

IV. Frances Willard Derr b. 3-21-1893 m. 1- 1-1917 Harry L. Pfeiffer b. 5-17-1892	(1) Kedric O. Pfeiffer b. 11- 3-1917 m. 9-20-1950 Garland Potter b. 1-18-1927	
	(2) Corinne B. Pfeiffer b. 12-19-1919 m. 12-27-1939 A. Gordon Tuttle, Jr. b. 8-20-1916	(1) Carol C. Tuttle b. 3- 1-1942 (2) Donald G. Tuttle b. 2-11-1944 (3) Lawrence S. Tuttle b. 5-30-1947 (4) Ann Tuttle b. 8-27-1955
V. (Henry) George Derr b. 1-16-1898 m. 1- 1-1927 Pearl Sly b. 10-23-1901	(1) Naomi C. Derr b. 6-11-1928 m. 3-30-1947 Lloyd Pfander b. 12-28-1922	(1) Karen Pfander b. 4- 9-1948 (2) Cynthia Pfander b. 1- 4-1952 (3) Gregory Pfander b. 8-14-1953 (4) Elizabeth Pfander b. 1-28-1958
	(2) Beverly A. Derr b. 10-17-1930 m. 6-13-1953 Orville Kelley b. 7-21-1925	(1) Mark Kelley b. 2-10-1955 (2) Leah Kelley b. 10-28-1956

Family of George Mandus Derr.

George Mandus Derr was born in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, Pa., Nov. 17, 1852, less than a year before his parents and family moved to Medina county, Ohio, to make their future home. He attended Boneta grade school and then the "Select School" at Sharon Center. Later he taught both of these schools and while at the "Select School" sister Josie and brother Jacob were his pupils. He also taught grade schools south of Medina and at Western Star in Ohio, at Blue Mound in Ill., and for several years in South Dakota after his marriage. He attended Oberlin Academy and College between 1872 and 1877, then went to Blue Mound, Ill., that summer along with brother Jacob and taught school there during the winter as did sisters Hettie and Josie. He then entered Baldwin-Wallace College at Berea, Ohio, and graduated in 1881 with Bachelor of Science degree.

In the spring of 1883 he and brother Jacob went to South Dakota and each took up adjacent "Homestead" quarter-section claims of 160 acres near Carpenter in Richland township, Clark County. The land was purchased from the government at $1.25 per acre but a six months' residence on the claim by the purchaser was required before title could be obtained. To save the cost of two dwellings they built one 10 ft. by 20 ft. sod house across the dividing line between their claims with beds at each end so they could sleep on their own land. At the end of the second summer both returned to Ohio where both were married in 1885. Jacob remained in Ohio but George and his bride, the former Jenny Spafford, returned to the claim and lived there for 37 years until he died at the age of 70.

Jenny Jeanette Spafford, was the daughter of Noah Spafford and Electa Beckwith Spafford, who died when Jenny was about six years old. Her father then married Olive Irving, of whom Jenny was very fond as her step-mother. Noah Spafford was the son of Noah Spafford, Sr. who married Lydia Carter. Jenny's great-grandfather was Jacob Spafford who married Electa Chittenden and one of their sons, Martin Spafford, was the father of Beulah Spafford (Mrs. Frank Derr). See Chap. V., Family of Frank Derr. Jenny had attended Mary Lyon's Finishing School (location unknown) and taught school before her marriage. She was much interested in music and was always a working member of the W.C.T.U.

Neither George nor Jenny was naturally adapted to the rough and rugged farm life of those early pioneer days in that newly settled country. For many years it required strong determination and careful planning to overcome the many hardships and provide the necessary food and clothing for the family. He taught school during the first seven or eight winters to make ends meet and in case of emergency, Jenny, being a qualified teacher, would substitute for him. On one such occasion at the Simpson school, it was necessary to take the baby (Alice) along even though she had a fever. On that particular day the county school superintendent made one of his routine calls for school inspection. When the dignified visitor became aware of the situation he took over the teaching duties and told Jenny to take care of the baby. One winter George taught a school six miles east of the farm, roomed near there during the week, walking back home on Friday night and then back to the school on Monday morning. For one or two winters they both lived in a small shack on a friend's farm near Cavour, about 20 miles south of the farm, while George taught a nearby school. That is where they were the winter of the January 1888 big blizzard, when many people throughout the nation lost their lives in the storm.

Their farm was located one half mile north and one mile west of Carpenter (with Shue Creek running through it) in the south west corner of Clark County.

The nearest railroad station was at Willow Lake, 16 miles to the east where all of their grain had to be hauled by wagon when sold, and most of the farm and home supplies were brought from there. For several of the early years on the farm the source of farm power was a team of oxen - Buck and Bright. They being slow of foot and George a fast walker, he would often make the trip on foot to Willow Lake or Cavour for supplies and return the same day.

Prairie fires and cyclones were the dread of the farmers, who often lost most of their stock and crops in them. George and Jenny escaped severe loss from fire, although their grade school (Bunker Hill) building was scorched one fall while daughter Jeanette was teacher there. And their original Homestead Claim shanty was burned the second year they lived there. Jenny's biggest loss was many of the books she had brought from Ohio. They were gradually replaced, usually by giving each of the children a book for Christmas. But the scorched volumes of "Complete Shakespeare" and "Will Carleton's Poems" still served for years afterward as part of their library. On three different occasions their barn was blown down by cyclones, and in one about 1900 the roof was lifted from the one-story house far enough so that daylight showed through between the wall and the eaves. At that time the trap door into the cellar danced around the room, badly frightening Alice, Olive and Jeanette who were there alone but fortunately escaped injury.

Both George and Jenny were ardent church workers and helped organize the first Methodist Episcopal Church at Carpenter with the early meetings being held in the school-house while the church and parsonage were being built in 1904. He often substituted for the student ministers when they were absent. Both sang well and taught many in the neighborhood how to sing parts for the community sings. Jenny was mid-wife for all the neighborhood children and practical nurse for many of the adults, as the nearest doctor lived at Clark, 25 miles away.

Their trips back to Ohio were few and far between. Jenny went back in 1903 with son Henry George when he was five years old, while Alice assumed the role of official housekeeper with her younger sisters as helpers. George made the trip several years later but it always required careful planning and much saving to finance such trips. Farming in that area gradually improved and changed with the coming of power farm machinery. Large acreage farming became quite common, with the owners sometimes living in town or on one acreage while other tracts often totaling 300 to 800 acres were farmed with the big machines and few men. Of late years, however, the general trend is to put the farms into the government Soil Bank, resulting in no crops and owners collecting rent from the federal government.

George was of a retiring, gentle disposition, more suited to the life of a teacher than a pioneer farmer requiring an aggressive personality to overcome the rough problems in a new country. In spite of the gruelling life and constant financial struggle he was always in good health, and his judgment and opinions were respected by all his neighbors. All four of the girls were school teachers and in the winter of 1912-13 all were teaching at the same time at nearby schools - Alice at Willow Lake, Frances and Olive at Bancroft and Jeanette starting her teaching at a rural school near Willow Lake. Their children, all born on the farm near Carpenter, are: -

I. (Rachel) Alice Derr was born on the farm of her parents near Carpenter, S. Dakota, graduated from high school there, attended Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell for three years and taught school in Clark and Beadle Counties for six years. After her marriage in 1913 to Frank Hastings they farmed the 320 acre

old Hastings farm for 25 years. That was located four miles west and four and one half miles north of Pierpont. They then moved onto their own 320 acre farm south of Pierpont and after farming there for twelve years they retired and moved into Pierpont. From there they moved into Aberdeen and after living there about three years moved to Arlington, Va., where Frank died about two years later. Alice stayed on there for some time to be near her two daughters, Marjorie and Muriel, as well as sister Olive. Then in 1958, when her daughter, Carol, had her year's leave from missionary service in India, they took an apartment together in San Diego, Cal., where her son Lewis lives. When Carol returned to India, Alice went to Minneapolis to spend the winter of 1959-60 with her son Delbert and helped take care of the children while both parents were teaching. She then went to live with her daughter Marjorie Hastings Bingham in Falls Church, Va., (near Arlington) and at this writing is looking for a suitable apartment.

All seven of her children were born at Pierpont, S. Dakota, and graduated from high school there.

1. Marjorie Franc Hastings graduated from business college and for several years before and after her marriage was a civil service stenographer. She still does part-time typing work. She married Eugene D. Bingham who is a printer in the Government Printing Office in Washington, D. C.

2. Mildred Alice Hastings took normal school training, then taught school one year before her marriage and since then has done part-time file clerk work. Her husband, A. W. Smeins, is a maintenance engineer for the Onan Co. in Minneapolis.

3. Lewis Derr Hastings spent three years in the U. S. Navy and is now a price clerk for the Frazee Wholesale Paint Co. of San Diego, Cal.

4. Carol Joy Hastings graduated in nursing from Eitel Hospital in Minneapolis, then took Bible training at Phoenix Bible School at Phoenix, Ariz. Since 1945 she has been a missionary nurse and evangelistic worker in the Khandesh and Nasik Districts in India, both northeast of Bombay. Her last leave of absence ended in April 1959 and was spent in San Diego, Cal., where she shared an apartment with her mother, except for deputation meetings she attended in South Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, Colorado and Arizona. The quarterly letters she sends out through a good friend, Mrs. Diamond Kyriazi, 556 Jennings St., Vallejo, Cal., enthusiastically describe her work and service with the native hill tribes and Hindu people.

5. Muriel Claire Hastings graduated from business college in Washington, D. C. Her husband, John Bittenbender, is a sheet metal worker.

6. Delbert Curtis Hastings served three years in the navy, attended the University of Minnesota, where he earned degrees of Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy. He taught for two years at Washington University in Seattle, then for two years worked for the Federal Reserve Bank in St. Louis. Since the fall of 1958 he has taught at the University of Minnesota as Professor of Business Administration and now is teaching there in the graduate school.

   His wife the former Ellen Hainer, teaches mathematics in the Hopkins, Minn., high school where her niece, Janet Smeins, is a pupil.

7. Maurice Miles Hastings served three years in the army, received his Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State College and his Master of Science degree from Colorado A. & M. College at Fort Collins, Colorado. He has been doing state and federal irrigation research work, previously at Grand Junction, Colorado, and since the summer of 1960 at Yuma, Arizona.

II. Olive Marguerite Derr graduated from the Clark, S. Dakota, high school in 1909, then taught grade schools in Bancroft and Pierpont until 1918 when she married M. O. Johnson. Their married life was all spent on the 260 acre farm they owned in Union township, Day county, about two miles southeast of Pierpont, until he died of a heart attack in 1932. Then Olive moved into the village of Pierpont while her brother George and family operated the farm for one year until sister Jeannette and family moved onto it in Feb. 1933. They have made that their home ever since.

Olive then went to Aberdeen that fall and finished her normal school training at Northern State Teachers College after which she taught school at Bristol, Clark and Florence in S. Dakota as well as one year in the state of Oregon.

About 1944 she moved to Arlington, Va. to temporarily manage a beauty shop for the husband of one of her nieces, and made that city her home until 1959. Since then she has been spending the winters in Florida and the summers in Pierpont, S. Dakota.

1. Carlton Craig Johnson enlisted in the army after he had a course in engineering at South Dakota State College in Brookings about half completed. While serving in the communications department he contracted blood cancer and died very suddenly.

2. (Burton) Thayne Johnson was in the service in the Philippines for three years before going to Arlington, Va. to live. He is an auto mechanic and also raises flowers commercially.

III. Jeanette Spafford Derr taught school in S. Dakota for 15 years - from 1912 to 1917 in rural schools and for the next 10 years first grade, six years at Pierpont and four years at Letcher. Her mother lived with her and kept house for her for two years there at Letcher. Her first teaching salary was $35.00 per month and when she stopped she was being paid $135.00 per month.

After her marriage in 1927 to Alvin Lidel, a farmer, they lived until 1933 on their own farm of 480 acres located in Homer township, Day county, about 4½ miles north and 2 miles east of Pierpont. That year they moved onto sister Olive's 260 acre farm in Union township, Day county, and have lived there ever since. However both farms were put into the federal land bank on July 1, 1960, when the Lidels retired. All their cattle and farm equipment have been sold and their future plans are as yet not definite. Both Alvin and Jeanette are very active in their local Presbyterian church. Jeanette has recently been president of the Pierpont Women's Club, helped organize their local library, and is active in the Legion Auxiliary.

1. (Elwin) Clare Lidel was in military service in Japan for 15 months and up until the summer of 1960 was a cost accountant for General Mills in Minneapolis. He then went to work for the Cornelius Co. at Onaka, Minn., where he does precision internal grinding work.

2. Philip DeForest Lidel served in the Army Intelligence for three years - one year in training school at Ft. Devens, Mass., one year in Korea, and one year in Japan. He graduated with a geology major from the University of South Dakota in June, 1959, and the following week married Virginia Helen Waage. She had taken a business course at Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen and then worked for two years in the business office of the college. Since her marriage she has been working in the State House at Pierre, S. Dakota, as an Insurance Licensing clerk.

   Philip started to work after graduation as a geologist for the S. Dakota state highway dept. and recently has been promoted to Director of Highway Operations.

IV. Frances Willard Derr attended Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell and later was a school teacher and office worker. After her marriage to Harry Pfeiffer they lived on farms in Clark and Faulk counties in S. Dakota for about six years, then in 1923 moved to Grant's Pass, Oregon, where they operated a dairy. From there they moved to Portland, Oregon, where Harry is a sheet-metal worker. They do a great deal of gardening, also have a holly and fruit orchard but specialize in the raising of roses and primroses. Frances has recently been serving as president of the Portland Women's Club.

1. Kedric Oliver Pfeiffer received his Bachelor of Science degree from Oregon State College at Corvallis. He was wounded in action while serving as Captain of Field Artillery in the Saint Lo Area of France in 1944. He is now working as an engineer for Boeing Air Craft in Seattle, Wash.

2. Corinne Bennebee Pfeiffer received her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics from Oregon State College in 1940. In recent years she has been doing commercial photography. Her husband, A. Gordon Tuttle, Jr., received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Washington at Seattle and now teaches manual training at Troutdale, Oregon. The family are all boating enthusiasts and Gordon made a boat for his daughter Ann to use when she was about two years old. Their daughter Carol was a representative from her school on a 10 day Hi-Y tour to Washington, D.C., New York City, and other eastern cities in November 1959.

V. (Henry) George Derr graduated from Willow Lake, S. Dakota, high school in 1917 then spent the next 2½ years in the army at Ft. Demming, New Mexico. He was hospitalized there part of the time due to a lung ailment and after recovery played tuba in the army band. He received his Bachelor of Civil Engineering from Ramsey Institute of Technology of St. Paul, Minn., in 1925. His wife, the former Pearl Sly, was born at Raymond, S. Dakota.

George worked two years each for the highway department of the states of Minnesota and Pennsylvania, also for the department of public works of the state of New York - then went back to farm for several years, one of which was on the farm of his sister Olive, following the death of her husband in the spring of 1932. From there the family moved to California where George has been employed ever since by the U. S. Navy. The first eighteen years he was in construction work at Mare Island naval ship yard near San Francisco, and since then as "Contract Representative" and "Supervisor of Inspectors" at the new 30,000 acre Lemoore Naval Air Station near Hanford. He is doing some chorus singing and plans to retire when his present assignment is completed. They have two married daughters.

1. Naomi Clare Derr was born at Norwich, N. Y., and married at Petaluma, Cal., to Lloyd Pfander who was born at Jasper, Mo. He graduated from Anderson College, Anderson, Ind., in 1950 with Bachelor of Theology degree but has been making teaching his profession. He has taught near Big Sandy, Mont., and at present at Armona, six miles from Hanford where they live. Both Lloyd and Naomi are attending night school to improve his rating, and she to prepare for teaching when her youngest child starts to school. Their four children were born in the following places - Karen Sue and Cynthia Jean both at Petaluma, Cal., Gregory Neal at Redwood City, Cal., and Elizabeth Ann Pfander at Havre, Mont.

2. Beverly Anne Derr was born at Kittanning, Pa., and married at Petaluma, Cal., to (Truman) Orville Kelley who was born at Phoenix, Ariz. Both hold Bachelor of Arts degrees from Pacific Bible College of Portland, Oregon. Orville is an ordained minister in the Church of God which has its headquarters at Anderson, Ind. He is at present pastor of Four Lakes Methodist church near Seattle, Wash. Their three children were born at the following places - Mark Laurence at Kelso, Wash., Leah Denise at Carmel, Cal., and William George Kelley at Seattle, Wash.

C H A P T E R VIII

GENEALOGY Chart of Josephine (Josie) Derr Wagner - born 10-20-1856-died 9-29-1937.
Married 12-31-1884 to George Wagner - born 8-29-1856 - died 10-29-1942.

I. Benn Allen Wagner b. 4-27-1886 m. 1- 1-1909	(1) Kenneth A. Wagner b. 2- 7-1910 m. 9-11-1936 Genevieve Prentice b. 2- 2-1915	(1)Roger Wagner b. 9-30-1937 m. 7-17-1958 Judy Lane b. 4-10-1940	(1)Sheryl Ann Wagner b. 4-27-1959 (2)Loralee J. Wagner b. 8-27-1960
		(2)David Wagner b. 7- 1-1939 m. 7-10-1959 Delphine Rott b. 7-13-1939	(1)David M. Wagner 8. 8-25-1960
		(3)Dennis Wagner b. 4-16-1945	
		(4)Carol W. Wagner b. 3-31-1950	
		(5)Ruthie Wagner b. 3- 7-1957	
(Candace) Jennie Fuller b. 10-30-1888 d. 7-11-1960	(2) Donald M. Wagner b. 5-29-1911 m. 9-11-1934 Agnes Knutson b. 10-18-1909		
	(3)Gerald D. Wagner b. 9-16-1916 m. 6-21-1941 Anne Johnson b. 3-10-1920	(1)Kathy Wagner b. 3-16-1942	
		(2)Nancy Wagner b. 10- 6-1946	
		(3)Laurie Wagner b. 3-17-1955	
		(4)Rabenn Wagner b. 11-30-1956	
II. William Henry Wagner b. 1- 1-1888 m. 8-25-1914	(1) Virginia Wagner b. 9-12-1916 m. Gordon G. Bowers b. 12-29-1908	(1)Gordon G. Bowers b. 5-24-1941	
		(2)Thomas B. Bowers b. 6-17-1942	
		(3)David W. Bowers b. 4- 4-1944	
		(4)Daniel B. Bowers b. 3-31-1947	
		(5)Steven F. Bowers b. 4-24-1951	
		(6)Mark B. Bowers b. 6- 6-1953	
Lulu B. Fitzsimmons b. 11-~~28~~ 12-1888	(2) Betty Wagner b. ~~5-30-1926~~ 10-8-1920 m. Lester R. Ladouceur b. 1-24-1921	(1)Karen S. Ladouceur b. 8-12-1946	
		(2)Jean Ann Ladouceur b. 2-16-1949	
		(3)James A. Ladouceur b. 5- 8-1953	
	(3) John W. Wagner b. 5-30-1926 m. Helen D. Tometz b. 9-20-1930	(1)Denise E. Wagner b. 2- 4-1951	
		(2)Teresa A. Wagner b. 8-17-1957	

Continued on next page.

GENEALOGY Chart of Josie Derr Wagner - Continued

	(1)	Ronald W. Fuller b. 10-19-1916 m. 3-21-1942 Margaret E. Roysten b. 7- 4-1920	(1)Sarah M. Fuller b. 9-15-1951 (2)Naomi R. Fuller b. 10-11-1953 (3)Peter D. Fuller b. 11-15-1956
	(2)	Bruce A. Fuller b. 10-20-1918 m. 8-16-1942 Pauline Johnson b. 3-12-1919	(1)Barbara G. Fuller b. 3-21-1948 (2)Marcia E. Fuller b. 10- 9-1956
III. Gladys Ella Wagner b. 2- 6-1890	(3)	Dwight A. Fuller b. 9- 7-1920 m. 11-28-1946 Lorean Born b. 5-19-1920	(1)Paul A. Fuller b. 10- 5-1948 (2)Joyce E. Fuller b. 6- 3-1950
m. 10- 8-1914	(4)	Lois E. Fuller b. 11-13-1925 m. 4-12-1946 Wayne L. Born (a brother of Lorean) b. 5-27-1924	(1)Raymond J. Born b. 1-26-1952 (2)Mark E. Born b. 1-16-1956 3)Kenneth J. Born b. 6-20-1957 (4)Mary L. Born b. 11-~~28~~-1958
J. Bert Fuller b. 10-18-1890 (a brother of Mrs. Benn Wagner)	(5)	J. Wayne Fuller b. 4- 1-1929 m. 12-19-1953 Frances Anderson b. 5-19-1929	(1)Timothy W. Fuller b. 12-18-1954 (2)Janet F. Fuller b. 8- 6-1956 (3)James A. Fuller b. 2- 9-1958 (4)Dwight D. Fuller b. 6- 6-1959 (5)Cynthia F. Fuller b. 9-29-1960

IV. Richard Dewey Wagner b. 4- 2-1898 d. 7- 9-1957 m. 8-20-1920 Nell Conliff b. 2-28-1899 d. 9-24-1956	(1)Donna Rae Wagner b. 2- 9-1925 m. 5-13-1947 Edward Hanger b. 9-28-1921	(1)Kathy Sue Hanger b. 10- 1-1948 (2)Rickey Hanger b. 9-20-1951

Family of Josephine (Josie) Derr and George Wagner

The following account of her mother's life is for the most part as written by Gladys Wagner Fuller with minor changes and additions.

Josephine Derr was born at the Bear Swamp farm home in Medina Co., Ohio, on October 20, 1856. She attended school at Boneta until she was 15 years old. One of the teachers, Lou Chandler, was disliked by Josie and brother Jacob, so they got to playing along the creek on their way to school, eating their lunch at noon and then returning home about the time school was out. That went on for a while until one of the pupils saw them and told the teacher. She sent for them and both were switched. The pupils were always playing pranks on this teacher. One noon while she was out for her lunch, the kids put an old pig in the school-room and then climbed up on the teacher's desk (a good sized table). When Miss Chandler returned and opened the door, out rushed the pig, upsetting the teacher. From the Boneta school Josie went on to the Sharon "Select" school with brother George as teacher. After that she attended Western Star school where brother Frank was teacher, taking such subjects as language and grammar, U.S. History, Ray's higher arithmetic, geography and writing. School always opened with singing and Bible reading. During one summer she worked at the Billman Hotel in Doylestown, Ohio. After taking the teachers' examination, she was given her teaching certificate and taught at the Boneta, Fixler Corners, and Bigelow Chapel schools in Medina Co. There were coal mines near the Bigelow Chapel school, about 2 miles northeast of Wadsworth, and the colored children of the miners attended her school. They loved to sing and in later years two of the boys went on the road with a musical troupe.

Josie attended preparatory school at Oberlin and at Berea, Ohio, keeping house at the same time for her brothers George and Jacob, who were also enrolled in these schools. When she was 20 years old, she went to Blue Mound, Ill. along with Jacob and George, where Hettie was teaching and where the girls and George taught school while Jacob worked on a nearby farm.

While George and Jacob were "homesteading" their claims at Carpenter, South Dakota, in 1883, Josie went there to see them and started to work in a boarding house at Cavour in adjoining Beadle county. That winter she taught school in Cavour and also met George Wagner from Beatrice, Nebraska, who had set up a blacksmith shop in the small town. This developed into a romance and they were married New Years Eve, Dec. 31, 1884, going to Huron by train for the wedding ceremony. They were snow-bound at Huron for several days before they could get back to Cavour to start housekeeping in their living quarters over the blacksmith shop. There the first three children were born, Benn Allen, William Henry and Gladys Ella. In 1892, when Gladys was two years old, the family moved about 35 miles east to Lake Preston where they lived for the next ten years. After a few years George moved his shop to Bryant, about 20 miles north, but the family remained at Lake Preston. He would hire a livery team every two or three weeks to drive back home to spend Sunday with the family and take back with him clean clothes and baked goods. One of Gladys' pleasant memories is of taking the train to Bryant on a Friday evening, sleeping in the shop, eating meals cooked over the forge, and then on Sunday riding back with her father to Lake Preston. Richard Dewey Wagner was born there on April 2, 1898.

In April, 1902, they all moved to Pine River, Minn., where George set up his shop and operated it for several years. He also acquired 80 acres of jack pine forest land adjoining the village and on it built a house where the

children grew up and lived until all married and established their own homes in that part of the state.

On Sept. 29th 1937, Josie was struck by a car on the highway in front of their home and passed away four hours later. She was buried in Pine River where she had been very active in church work, being one of the charter members of the first church to be erected in the town. She loved the Lord with her whole heart and gave herself unstintingly in service for others. She was always her husband's faithful helper. Six of her grandsons - three Wagners and three Fullers carried her to her grave.

The following account of his father was written by Benn A. Wagner:

"Let us start in Germany, where I understand the parents of George Wagner originated. They were driven by religious persecution first to Wales and then to Ireland where George's father, John Wagner, married Elenor Lane and the Dutch and Irish blood was mixed. The family sailed from County Cork (where great-grandmother Wagner insisted she had often heard the mermaids during storms) and landed in New Brunswick, Canada. Apparently they were dyed-in-the-wool pioneer stock for they lived in the St. John's River and Bay of Fundy area with its enormous tides which my father often told about. They later emigrated to Wisconsin, then to Nebraska in the Beatrice area where father and his eleven brothers and sisters grew to maturity - then scattered.

"George Wagner, to whom the frontier appealed all his life, learned the blacksmith and woodworker crafts under apprenticeship to a man named Shaw, of whom he often talked. He went to east central South Dakota about 1883 and opened a blacksmith shop at Cavour, a small town about 10 miles east of Huron. I recall (after nearly 70 years) the two-story building with shop below and living quarters above, reached by an outside stairway, to which Josie Derr came as a bride.

"I don't know how my father ever consented to move from prairie-land Cavour to more civilized Lake Preston to the east. He was a lover of the outdoors and often we did not see too much of him due to his hunting and beaver and muskrat trapping expeditions. But even so, eastern South Dakota became too settled and in 1902 we pulled up stakes and moved to Pine River, Minnesota, when I was 16 years old. This was logging country; that is, the tail end of native timber logging but there were still lumberjacks, log drives, and logging camps. Indian burial grounds, with the little log and bark huts over the graves, were still to be found and some Indians wandered about, though most of them were on the reservation some 30 miles north."

Gladys adds this about her father - "After mother's death he continued to live in the old home but was terribly lonely. In his later years he joined the church. Dad was known as the "Honey man" for he earned their living by raising bees and selling honey in all the nearby towns for years after his retirement from the shop." He was buried in Pine River beside his wife. Brother-in-law Jacob Derr often told of George Wagner's prowess as a hunter. He was one of the very few who could invariably bring down two prairie chickens scared up at the same time but flying in opposite directions. They frequently hunted together while Jacob was "homesteading" in South Dakota.

I. Benn Allen Wagner, born at Cavour, South Dakota, wrote the following account of his life and family:

In this semi-pioneer area (Pine River) I taught country school as a youngster, with some of the pupils about my age, first about two miles from home, then northeast some 50 miles up in the woods at Remer, where we either walked in or rode the mail stage which made the trip once a week, although there is now a railroad to the village. The old schoolhouse, moved a mile or so into town, now stands in a corner of the school grounds with the modern school building. Those were the days when we walked to school -- teacher, big boys and girls, and little kids -- from one to three miles, and never dreamed of school buses.

In Pine River, Miss Jennie Fuller (born in Marathon, Iowa) got her hands on me and we were married January 1st., 1909, at the home of her parents. (Not that I was unwilling!). A week after the wedding we went to Remer where there was a term of school to complete. We rode all day in the mail carrier's bob-sled in 25 below zero weather to the end of the mail route, a post office well named "Snowball". We stayed all night in the post office home, where the neighbors were in for a country dance in the living room, and rode the rest of the way with a Remer homesteader in the very early morning. Those dances were all-night affairs but nobody stayed for breakfast.

We lived at Remer in a log house with a newly married elderly couple. The downstairs was all one room and the two bedrooms upstairs were separated by a curtain. There was out-back plumbing. In the yard was a good-sized logging camp and about a block away was the schoolhouse. But I was making good money -- thirty dollars a month. However, the school district was broke, so a scalper took 10% of my pay check.

Jennie's family came to Pine River from Iowa in 1904. This was the second migration into northern Minnesota for the Fuller family, who had come there some years before by covered wagon, to settle in the Bungo country woods west of town under real pioneer conditions, then going back to southern Minnesota.

When spring came at Remer we went back to Pine River to take over one of the village newspapers. Jennie knew how to set type by hand and I had operated small newspapers nearby before, so we were able to get by. We lived with the Fuller folks (a common procedure up in the woods), until we rented a place in town. We paid four dollars a week for our room and board. We've never had it so good since.

It wasn't long until our first child, Kenneth, came along and the family was under way. I drove past the house not long ago and recalled how old Dr. Holman was the obstetrician and I was the anaesthetist. Donald was born at Nevis, Minnesota where we operated a newspaper for some four years, and Gerald showed up at Pequot, Minnesota, where we lived for about twenty years. The depression was tough on small country newspapers and I "lost my shirt" trying to add to newspaper income with other endeavors.

Eventually I swapped a piece of lake shore for two small bankrupt newspapers on the Cuyuna Range about 30 miles to the southeast. We then moved to Ironton, Minnesota, and lived there about four years. While on the range we learned a new process of color printing, and Kenneth and Gerald became interested in printing. In 1937 we moved to Brainerd, then a small city of 10,000, named ourselves Lakeland Color Press, and began to promote color printing. I retired in 1955 but Ken and Gerald took a partner and opened a Minneapolis, Minn., office. The main office is still in Brainerd, with a sales and art office in Minneapolis. Their business has grown, as have their families, and the business now employs

25 to 30 people, with customers over a wide area. Bible Meditation League of Columbus, Ohio, for example, is one of them.

In 1955 Jennie and I built a new house near Marquette Lake in the Oak Hills Christian Training School area of Bemidji, Minnesota. Ken's family occupy our old place at Rice Lake in Brainerd and Gerald's live on Big Gull Lake about 15 miles from Brainerd. Don and Agnes live in a home they built about two miles from our place.

It may be true that we inherit the characteristics of our grandparents, for the outdoor life, hunting, fishing, camping, are hobbies of all the boys and they have ample opportunities here in northern Minnesota. To be sure, the far-away, hard-to-reach places look better and they, especially Don, have covered a lot of territory. Ken's family delight in a 22-foot cabin cruiser they haul to northern lakes (we're not too far from the Canadian border) for fishing, blueberrying, etc.

Don has fished and hunted in Colorado, Wyoming, Washington, British Columbia, and in the Hudson Bay area. Gerald was with a map-making unit in New Delhi, India, during World War II, and had opportunities for hunting and exploring in the Himalaya mountains in India, Kashmir, and Afghanistan. Annual deer camps are the normal thing in the fall here in northern Minnesota.

A much more important occupation comes from the fact that all of the family group are active Christians with a particular interest in missionary activities. The Oak Hills Christian Training School is basically a missionary training Bible institute with an average enrollment of about 65. We all have a long-standing interest in the Northern Gospel Mission in northern Minnesota, and many of our relatives and close friends are on mission fields around the world. This is not a hobby; rather, it is a consuming interest.

Benn's wife, Jennie, died this last summer, and was buried in Brainerd, Minn., on July 14, 1960.

Children and grandchildren of Benn and Jennie Wagner are:

1. Kenneth A. Wagner as previously stated was born in Pine River, Minn., and graduated from the high school at Pequot, Minn. He was married at Park Rapids, Minn., to Genevieve Prentice, who was born in Minneapolis. He is still one of the partners of the Lakeland Color Press and also serves on the board of directors of the Oak Hills Fellowship.

   The Kenneth Wagners have three sons, two of them married, and two unmarried daughters. Roger Allen Wagner was born in Brainerd, Minn., and was married at Riverside, Calif., to Judy Lane, who was born in Longmont, Calif. He served in the U. S. Navy aboard the cruiser Repurtus, based at Long Beach, Calif., where they lived in an apartment during the last half of 1958. When he left with the cruiser for Formosan waters, Judy went to live with her parents in Bloomington, Calif. Since Roger's discharge from the Navy early in 1960, he has worked for the Lakeland Color Press in Brainerd, Minn., where they now live. Their daughter, Sheryl Anne Wagner, was born at Long Beach, the first great-grandchild of Benn and Jennie Wagner. They now have three (at this writing - 1960).

David Wagner was born at Brainerd, Minn., and married Delphine (Duffy) Rott of St. Paul, Minn. Both attended Pillsbury Bible College at Owatonna, Minn. After their marriage he operated an offset machine in a Minneapolis print shop for a while, then moved to Brainerd, where he works for the Lakeland Color Press.

2. Donald M. Wagner was born at Nevis, Minn., graduated from the Pequot, Minn. high school and was married to Agnes Knutson who was born there. He attended Northwestern Bible School in Minneapolis and held pastorates in Long Prairie and Park Rapids in Minnesota and at Waverly, Iowa, before going to Seattle, Wash., where he studied for his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees. He was selected to head the new Oak Hills Christian Training School near Bemidji, Minn., and held that position for ten years, then went to Colorado for two years, and is now back at Oak Hills where he is instructor and also dean of the evening Bible School.

3. Gerald D. Wagner was born at Pequot, Minn., and graduated from high school at Ironton, Minn. His wife is the former Anne Johnson of Pelican Rapids, Minn. He is one of the partners of the Lakeland Color Press of Brainerd and Minneapolis. They have four children.

It should be stated here that Benn Wagner and his sons, who are partners in the Lakeland Color Press, took over a weekly newspaper at Bemidji in January 1960, and operated it as "Great River Country News" until it was sold 10 months later. It was a situation that required the taking over of a nearly defunct paper and bringing it back to a salable business. Benn is at present helping the new owners get started but expects to retire again in the near future except for his voluntary help at the Oak Hills Christian Training School.

II. William Henry Wagner was born January 1, 1888, in Cavour, South Dakota, and arrived along with the great blizzard of that same date. When he was four years old his parents moved to Lake Preston where he finished 8th grade at the age of twelve just before the family moved to Pine River, Minn., where there was no high school. But with the help of one of the grade school teachers, a Mrs. LaDue, and several correspondence courses, Will took some high school courses and obtained a teacher's certificate. He taught in several country schools including the one at Longville.

During his teaching period, Lulu Fitzsimmons, who was born at Atlantic, Iowa, came to Pine River in 1912 to teach and their romance resulted in marriage at the home of her parents in Glyndon. Will obtained work in a furniture store in Brainerd and later he and Lulu's father went into the furniture business there.

The following is from a letter from Will Wagner - dated May 1st 1959 - "After that we spent a couple of years in the Texas oil fields. About the only accomplishment there was to spend our money in a venture for which we had no background. Upon our return from Texas we spent a number of years in the wholesale and retail oil business in Duluth, Minn. and Superior, Wis.

"Just at the beginning of World War II we came to Minneapolis. It was here that I began the work that I still continue. The War Manpower Commission had an agency known as T.W.I. (Training Within Industry). Under this program

men with teaching and business backgrounds were sent into business and industry to instruct Supervisors in the skills of Job Instruction, Job Methods and Job Relations. This was accomplished by gathering together groups of ten management people in five two hour sessions, on consecutive days (Monday through Friday). By lecture, demonstration, practice, and discussion, the skill would be acquired by the participating Supervisors. They then went back to their respective plants and used the technique in developing their own groups. I was a Production Trainer working in the states of Minnesota, Iowa, and North Dakota.

"This program was discontinued at the close of the war and I went to work for Pillsbury Mills, doing the same training work for their personnel. Like the old Methodist Circuit Rider, I went from plant to plant giving the series of training conferences, from Minneapolis to Buffalo, New York, to Wellsburg, W. Va., to Enid, Oklahoma, to Clinton, Iowa, etc.

"Six years ago I became too old to work for them and so retired to work for myself, in the same line of endeavor and using generally the same type of program. Most of the work has been for the hospitals of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and throughout the states of Minnesota, Iowa, and North Dakota. I also do some speaking at conventions and institutes."

Children of Will and Lulu Wagner --

1. Virginia Wagner (Mrs. Gordon G.) Bowers was born at Brainerd, Minnesota, attended grade and high school in Duluth, then obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing after training at The Villa Scholastica and St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth. She married Dr. Gordon G. Bowers, who was born in Minneapolis and who graduated from the School of Medicine at University of Minnesota. He also has a degree from that University in Electrical Engineering and served two years in the Army Medical Corps. He is now practicing Internal Medicine in the Nicollet Clinic at Minneapolis. Their first son was born in Duluth and five others in Minneapolis.

2. Betty Wagner (Mrs. Lester R.) Ladouceur was born at Brainerd, attended grade and high school in Duluth, then obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Library Science at the University of Minnesota. She married Lester R. Ladouceur, who was born at Brainerd, served two years in the L. S. T. section of the Navy, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota in Business Administration with a major in statistics. He is Ass't. Production Manager in a division of the Marathon Paper Co., Neenah, Wis. Their oldest child was born at Minneapolis, Minn. and the other two at Neenah.

3. John W. Wagner was born at Duluth, Minn., served 2 years in the Navy as Radio Technician, and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Speaking and Persuasion from the University of Minnesota. He was a member of the University debating team while in school. He taught for a while at Hamline University in St. Paul then joined his father in business for a time. He served as manager of claims and selections for the North Central Life Insurance Co. of St. Paul and is at present Personnel Director for the Prudential Insurance Co. in their Minneapolis office.

He married Helen D. Tometz, who was born in Minneapolis. Their two children were born in Minneapolis.

III. Gladys Ella Wagner (Mrs J. Bert Fuller) was born at Cavour, S. D. and moved, with her parents, to Lake Preston, S. D., in 1892, and to Pine River, Minn., in 1902. She wrote the following account of her life and that of their children.

"After teaching school for five years in the vicinity of Pine River, I was married there to James Bert Fuller, who was born in Marathon, Iowa. He is a brother of Candace Jennie (Fuller) Wagner, who married my brother Benn six years earlier.

"We lived in Longville on Long Lake, about 25 miles northeast of Pine River, for 25 years, where for a while Bert had a general store and the post office. That was sold and he went into the timber and lumber yard business, a part of which involved the salvaging of logs from the lake bottom, where they had settled after becoming water-logged in earlier days as they were being floated to the sawmills. That business was eventually sold and we moved to Walker, Minnesota, about 25 miles to the west and at the southwest point of Leech Lake. There we were engaged in a wholesale and retail gas and oil business, until it was sold in 1945.

"In 1946 Bert and I both entered Oak Hills Christian Training School near Bemidji, Minn., and graduated with the first class, in 1949. The next few years were spent in California, while our youngest son, Wayne, finished at the University of California in Berkeley, and at Golden Gate Seminary. After his marriage in 1953 we returned to Minnesota where we served as house parents in the girls' dormitory at Oak Hills for three years, and I taught English in the Bible School for four years. We started to build a new home adjacent to the school campus, and have just recently completed the interior finishing work on it."

Gladys and Bert spent the summer of 1960 from May 10th to Aug. 14th on a train trip via the northern route to the west coast to visit friends and relatives, then returned via Denver, Kansas City, and Chicago. They are both doing part-time work now at the Oak Hills Christian Training School. Gladys says they are getting too old to do more than help out when and where most needed.

Children of Gladys and J. Bert Fuller --

1. Ronald Wagner Fuller was born at Longville, Minn. He married Margaret Elinor Royston, who was born in Kansas City, Missouri. They both graduated from William Jewell College at Liberty, near Kansas City, and from Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago. Ronald earned his Master of Theology degree from Berkeley Divinity School, an American Baptist institution in California. In 1959, after completing a ten-year term of missionary service in Hong Kong, China, where he had been teaching in the Southern Baptist Seminary, in addition to ministerial work in the churches there on Sundays, they returned home for a year's furlough. During that year, he did some work toward his Doctor's degree at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Ronald and his family returned to Hong Kong on July 4, 1960, to begin their third missionary term, where both are now teaching in the Chinese Seminary. Their children were born in the following places -- Sarah Maureen and Peter Dana in Hong Kong, China, and Naomi Ronalyn in Berkeley, Calif.

2. Bruce Albert Fuller was born in Pine River, Minn., and married Pauline Johnson, born in Crosby, Minn. During World War II he served in the Navy and was stationed at Oakland, Calif. He attended Bemidji State Teachers College in Bemidji, Minn., and the University of Minnesota. He was engaged in the real estate business in Minneapolis, and since then at Walnut Creek, Calif., where he is also a building contractor. There he is active in the Evangelical Free Church and served as its building chairman during the construction of the recently completed church.

   Their daughter, Barbara Gay Fuller, was born in Bemidji, Minn., and Marcia Evalyn Fuller in Walnut Creek, Calif.

3. Dwight Alan Fuller was born in Pine River, Minn., and married Lorean Born, who was born in Walker, Minn. He served with the U. S. Air Force during World War II, being stationed in England and Ireland as a supercharger specialist. He graduated from William Jewell College near Kansas City, Mo., and from Berkeley Divinity School in California in 1950. His wife, Lorean, a registered nurse, served one year as a Navy nurse in Guam. They spent one term of four years as missionaries in Japan under the Evangelical Free Church, where Dwight taught in the Bible Institute, but had to return because of Lorean's poor health. Since then Dwight has been with the Trinity Seminary and Bible College in Chicago, Ill., as teacher in the Missions course; then acting as Deputation Secretary; and now head of the Missions Department. Their son, Paul Alan, was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and their daughter, Joyce Elaine, was born in Oakland, California.

4. Lois Elizabeth Fuller was born in Pine River, Minn., and married Wayne Leslie Born (a brother of Reverend Dwight Fuller's wife, Lorean) who was born in Walker, Minnesota. Lois attended Northwestern Bible School in Minneapolis and both she and Wayne graduated from Oak Hills Christian Training School near Bemidji, Minnesota, in 1951. He also graduated from William Jewell College near Kansas City, Missouri, and was a Navy Air Force pilot in the Second World War.

   From 1951 until 1958 Wayne and Lois served as missionaries and teachers to the Eskimos in the Hudson Bay area with headquarters at Churchill, Manitoba. They returned to Bemidji in 1958 and in August, 1959, Wayne graduated from Bemidji State Teachers College with a Bachelor of Science degree in education. Then in September 1959, they moved to Yellowknife on Great Slave Lake, N.W.T., Canada, about 600 miles due north of Edmonton, Alberta, where he is teaching English to high school students of white, Eskimo, and Indian blood. Their first child was born in Churchill, Canada, but the other three were born in Bemidji, Minnesota.

5. (James) Wayne Fuller was born in Remer, Minnesota, and married at Berkeley, California, to Frances Anderson of Wynn, Arkansas. He graduated from University of California and also Golden Gate Seminary in Berkeley, Calif. For the two years prior to 1960 he taught in the public school at Sheep Ranch, California, and also served as pastor of the Southern Baptist Church in San Andreas,

California. In the summer of 1960 they moved to Fair Oaks, California, where Wayne is teaching, and selling "World Encyclopedia" temporarily, while awaiting a call to a church pastorate or to the foreign mission field. Their first two children were born in Berkeley, the next two in San Andreas and the fifth in Fair Oaks, California.

IV. Richard Dewey Wagner was born at Lake Preston, South Dakota and moved with his parents to Pine River, Minn., in 1902. The following year, when he was five years old, he and his mother made a trip to Ohio for a visit with his grandmother Derr, who died less than two years later. Richard served in the naval air force during the First World War with a construction crew that built air bases, in both France and England. When he returned from service he started in newspaper work with his brother, Benn. He married Nell Conliff of Pequot, Minn. They moved to Duluth where he worked as a linotypist on the Duluth Herald-Tribune for thirty years, until his sudden death from a coronary attack while driving his car on a Duluth street. He was at the time recovering from a serious operation on the aorta and was soon to return to work. His wife had died the previous year. Both are buried in the Pequot, Minn., cemetery beside two children who died in infancy. They are survived by one daughter, Donna Rae (Mrs. Edward) Hanger, who was born at Pequot, Minn., and married Edward Hanger of Duluth, who is a linotypist. Their two children were born in Duluth.

C H A P T E R IX

GENEALOGY Chart of Jacob Hamilton Derr - born 3-15-1859 - died 9-5-1948
Married 12-23-1885 to Cora A. Wearstler - born 3-12-1866 - died 10-10-1957

I. Ruth E. Derr b. 6-27-1889 m. 6-11-1913 Cleber E. Grill b. 1- 9-1887	(1) Orline Grill b. 11- 6-1918 m. 3- 9-1946 Armin Pease b. 5- 6-1920 d. 4-19-1965	(1) Cheryl Pease b. 5- 3-1947
	(2) Marion Grill b. 8- 3-1923 m. 5-14-1960 Howard King b. 6-25-1910	
	(2) Clair Grill b. 3-21-1929 m. 5-10-1958 Barbara Skala b. 7-16-1937 d. 6-26-1961	
II. Earle W. Derr b. 9-16-1890 d. 2-12-1968 m. 9-11-1915 Margaret Sweet b. 1- 8-1893	(1) Lawrence W. Derr b. 10-29-1916 m. 8-14-1948 Frances Wentzel b. 1-21-1926	(1) Marilyn Derr b. 8-12-1953 (2) Barbara Derr b. 12-24-1955
	(2) Marjorie L. Derr b. 4-14-1918 m. 7-27-1941 George H. Williams b. 4- 7-1914	(1) Portia Williams b. 5- 8-1942 (2) Jeremy Williams b. 10- 9-1944 (3) Jonathan Williams b. 10- 3-1947 (4) Roger Williams b. 2- 6-1952
III. Dwight L. Derr b. 1-11-1899 m. 9- 1-1922 Hazel Boise b. 11-14-1898	(1) Kenneth Derr b. 12-24-1923 m. 8-10-1947 Lois Rhoades b. 7-21-1924	(1) Linda Derr b. 7-17-1951 (2) Lora Derr b. 3- 5-1955
	(2) Paul J. Derr b. 2-15-1929 m. 6-10-1950 Erma Suczany b. 10- 5-1929	
	(3) C. Thomas Derr b. 3-31-1931 m. 9-15-1952 Carla Roebuck b. 2- 1-1932	(1) Tama Derr b. 12- 9-1954 (2) Thomas Derr b. 4-23-1958 (3) Kristin Derr b. 12-16-1959
IV. Glenna E. Derr b. 2-21-1911 m. 8-26-1944 Maurice J. Laubenthal b. 8- 6-1914	(1) Maureen Laubenthal b. 5-22-1945 (2) Karen Laubenthal b. 8-27-1947 (3) Gary Laubenthal b. 4-29-1951	

Family of Jacob Hamilton Derr and Cora Wearstler Derr

Jacob H. Derr, the youngest child of Jacob and Rachel, was born on the Bear Swamp farm in Montville Twp., Medina Co., Ohio. He went to the Boneta grade school in Sharon Twp. until he was 14 years old, then to the Sharon Center "Select School" for two years, the first year with his brother George as teacher. Then he and sister Josie attended the high school at Western Star east of Wadsworth, where brother Frank was teacher and where the three of them kept house together.

In the spring of 1877 at the age of 18, he and his friend Cain Hartman left for Blue Mound, Ill. where his sisters Hettie and Josie and brother George had gone to teach school. The boys worked for a short time on a farm near Blue Mound, the same farm on which Hettie's grand-daughter, Mrs. Don (Helen Nicholls) King now lives. But they heard reports of the great need and better pay for harvest hands farther west, so Jacob and Cain started out on foot from Blue Mound for Missouri early one May morning with very little money. In those days "hitch-hiking" was of little help and when available was only by slow-moving horse-drawn buggies or wagons.

An interesting side-light on this trip was related by Jacob to his children many years later. Cain Hartman, always an adventuresome youth, decided that the trip would be quicker and easier by "hopping" freight trains along the way. They finally arrived at Washington, Missouri (about 175 miles southwest of Blue Mound) a couple of weeks later by freight (?) and were promptly picked up and searched by the local police. It so happened that (unknown to the boys) a hardware store in Blue Mound had been robbed of pocket knives and guns the night before they left there. They were of course suspected and put on the "wanted list" in the Missouri area for which they had started. When an apparently new pocket knife was found on Cain, the boys were lodged in jail overnight. Luckily the knife was of a different make from those stolen, so after receiving a stern lecture on their questionable mode of transportation the suspected culprits were allowed to go on their way.

The first job obtained after leaving Washington was with a farmer on the north side of the Missouri River who put Jacob to work cultivating corn with a team of mules. One hot day the mules took the bits in their teeth and started for the river over a sloping bank to get cooled off and rid themselves of bothersome flies. Jacob was unable to stop or turn them so jumped off the cultivator as they came to the water and watched helplessly as the mules walked in until they were almost covered by water. There they remained in contentment until the farmer was called. He admitted that this had happened before, then waded in and led the mules out.

After working northward through Missouri, Iowa, and South Dakota as the harvesting season progressed, they returned to Ohio in the fall and Jacob started to high school at Hudson where brother Frank was superintendent of schools. The following two years he worked for his board and room in the home of brother Frank and wife, attending school in the winter, and during the summer months working as receiving & shipping clerk in the curing room of the Straight & Sons butter and cheese warehouse. This was the storage building for the entire output of thirteen butter and cheese factories located nearby. In the underground basement butter was stored without ice for as long as six months and cheese up to a full year. This same building was later remodeled and transformed into the "Academy Bell" restaurant.

During his second year (1878-79) in Hudson Jacob attended Western Reserve Academy and the next year he took a business and bookkeeping course in the Commercial Dept. of Baldwin-Wallace College at Berea, Ohio. While there he lived with sister Josie and brother George, both of whom were also students at the college. The next two years he attended Oberlin Academy in preparation for his teaching certificate. While there he was catcher on the college baseball team and with only one other player held the record of hitting a home run ball over the "Ladies Hall" building that stood near the baseball field.

Before that time pitchers were restricted to underhand delivery of the ball to the batter (similar to present softball pitching) and the catchers could not use a mitt or glove. Then the first year that Jacob played ball at Oberlin the pitchers were allowed to throw overhand without any speed restrictions, but the catchers still had no hand protection. As a result he left school there with three fingers permanently stiff and with enlarged joints.

In the spring of 1883 Jacob and brother George went to Clark Co., South Dakota, where each took up 160-acre adjoining "Homestead Claims" from the government at $1.25 per acre. But before getting a deed to the land the "Homesteader" was required to live and sleep on his claim for a period of six months. A ten-foot by twenty-foot sod house was built on the line that separated the two claims so that each ten-foot by ten-foot half could be slept in by the proper brother thereby making two houses unnecessary. They both returned to Ohio after obtaining ownership to their claims and were married in 1885. Plans had been made for both to return to South Dakota to make their homes, but Jacob's bride-to-be objected so strongly that he sold his claim a couple years later at about double its cost to him.

He married Cora Arbella Wearstler who was born on the farm of her parents, Urias and Sarah Wall Wearstler, located about one mile north of Boneta, which had been previously owned and cleared by her maternal grandparents, Isaac and Susannah Brouse Wall who moved there in 1835. The parents of Urias Wearstler (born 1-31-1839; died 1-25-1936.) were Henry Wearstler (born 8-11-1789; died 7-20-1875) and Catherine Bowers Wearstler (born 12-2-1795; died 5-22-1850) who lived on a farm in Stark county, Ohio, and are buried there in the Greentown cemetery. Sarah Wall Wearstler was the daughter of Isaac Wall (born 4-18-1793; died 9-11-1870) and Susannah Brouse Wall (born 10-10-1812; died 5-31-1912). Isaac Wall's parents were Christian Wall and Catherine Baughman. Susannah Brouse Wall's parents were Michael Brouse (born 2-18-1778; died 5-18-1859) and Susannah Wilt Brouse (born 7-16-1779; died 1-28-1868). The farm home where Susannah Brouse Wall was born was in Chippewa township, Stark county, a few miles south of Wadsworth and near the Medina county line. The parents and all the above Wall ancestors of Cora Wearstler are buried in the Wadsworth cemetery.

Jacob taught country grade school for twelve winters in Medina county as follows - one winter each at Stony Ridge in Wadsworth township, Bunker Hill and Windfall in Medina township; English Settlement and Southwest Sharon, and seven winters at Boneta in Sharon township. He and Cora started housekeeping on the Ransom Orton farm one-half mile west of Boneta, where they lived for three years before moving to the 150-acre old Isaac Wall farm one mile north of Boneta then owned by her parents. Here they lived and farmed for the thirty years from 1888 to 1918. During the time that Jacob taught school, he and a hired man operated the farms on which they lived. His mother, Rachel, came to live with them after her husband died in 1886 and helped Cora with the housework and raising of the children.

Along with several of his neighbor farmers, Jacob donated the use of a team of horses for grading the right-of-way of the Northern Ohio railroad that was completed through Boneta in 1890. This is now the A.C.&Y. railroad that runs from Akron to Delphos, Ohio, and has been one of the most prosperous railroads in the entire country.

On April 8, 1890, a cyclone struck their farm home, moving the house off its foundation and out into the road without major damage to the well-built building but demolishing the barn and much of the farm equipment. Fortunately no one was seriously injured and Jacob was able to extinguish several small fires inside the house that had started from live embers scattered about from the kitchen and living room stoves. With the help of neighbors, the house was pulled back onto its foundation and, altho' quite extensively remodeled, is still the only house ever built on that farm, except for the original one built of logs.

During his thirty years of residence on the farm north of Boneta, Jacob was interested in outside activities as follows:

Owned and operated the Chippewa Lake grain elevator during 1892 and then sold it to Henry Koppes; was charter member of the Medina County Farmers Telephone Co., and on its board of directors for ten years; was charter member of the Medina County Y.M.C.A. and on its board of directors for eight years; was charter member and secretary of the Boneta Sweitzer Cheese Co. for several years and until it was sold to the Sumner Co. of Akron; managed the M. E. Frazier Co. grain elevator at Boneta for nearly two years until it was sold, about 1915.

In 1918 a public farm auction sale was held and Jacob and Cora purchased a home at 187 Baldwin St. in Wadsworth where they lived the remainder of their lives. Jacob and a neighboring farmer, Mr. R. S. Ringer, had already arranged for the purchase of the Dutt Feed and Supply Co. in Wadsworth which was later known as the D. H. L. Feed & Supply Co., dealing in a general line of feed and builders' supplies. Among other partners in the business during the 13 years Jacob was connected with it were I. G. Lesher, Dorothy Harrison, Chas. Baer and Harvey Koons. Finally in July 1931 his interests in the concern were sold and that fall he was elected Democratic mayor of Wadsworth, taking office on Jan. 1, 1932, and serving for two terms of two years each. He refused to run for a third term but in spite of that came within a few votes of being elected on a write-in ballot.

After retiring from politics his main interest was in his garden and in fishing trips that extended from Ohio to Michigan, and then the annual trip to Sandy Lake near Lakefield, Ontario, with some of his children and their families. As long as his health permitted, he was happiest when sitting in a boat with a long cane pole in his hands, watching the bobber for the anticipated bite.

But retirement soon brought on failing health and after a comparatively short illness, death came from pneumonia that developed after a fall in which his hip was broken. Cora lived on for another nine years and she also was afflicted with a broken hip that prevented her from normal walking for the last ten years of her life. Their daughter Glenna took over the household after her marriage and from then on graciously nursed both parents in disability and sickness until the time of their deaths.

Both Jacob and Cora were very active in the Lutheran church, its choir

and Sunday School, especially at Sharon Center, and more than carried their share of the work involved. Their good tenor and alto voices formed part of a quartet and double quartet that was much in demand at many public gatherings. Each of them lived to be the last of their generation in their respective families and each had also lived to be older than any of their brothers and sisters.

Children of Jacob H. and Cora Derr.

I. Ruth Edelle Derr was born on the farm of her parents at Boneta, Ohio, where she attended grade school, but after attending high school at Sharon Center for one and one half years, she was forced to drop school work on account of her health. She was later the collector of rentals for the Sharon Center branch of the Medina County Farmers Telephone Company for a period of three years. That involved travel by horse and buggy to the homes of about 300 subscribers in Sharon, Granger, and Hinckley townships to collect the quarterly telephone rentals. Then a rule was made by the telephone company requiring the subscribers to bring or send their rental money to the office, and the collector's job was abolished.

Since her marriage in 1913 to Cleber E. Grill, they have lived on the Grill farm at the north-east corner of Sharon township. His parents were Ervin A. Grill of Sharon township and Clara Allen Grill, who came from Hinckley township. They had owned and operated the farm since about 1885. His grandparents were Daniel Grill and Catherine Swigart Grill, who at one time owned seven farms in the vicinity of their home on what is known as "Dutch Street" in Sharon township. One of Cleber's first cousins was Ervin Young of Wadsworth who was a nephew of Ed Young, a pupil of Frank Derr when he taught high school at Western Star. (See Chapter V).

A booklet "Sharon Township - From Forest to Farms" compiled in 1938 by Mrs. John Swigart of Sharon Center states - "In 1816 the first white settler, David Point, a tanner and currier by trade, and his wife came from Orange county, New York, and settled in the north-east corner of the township on what is now Cleber Grill's farm".

Cleber attended the Copley high school, and he continued operation of the farm for a number of years after his marriage. He gradually gave up farming and spent more and more time in operation of a saw mill. This was moved into the Cleveland Metropolitan Park near Brecksville, Ohio, where he sawed the lumber for the park buildings and benches as well as some general maintenance work for many years. Eventually the saw mill was moved back to the farm and set up near the barn. Custom sawing is done there for customers who bring or send logs from many miles around. Cleber's main hobby has been music, and for a number of years he played the trumpet in the Sharon Center band. He still gets much enjoyment in the playing of his violin and accordion during his leisure hours. Their three children and families are all fishing enthusiasts and spend their vacations as a rule at Sandy Lake near Lakefield, Ontario. Both Clair and Howard King own boats and outboard motors that are much enjoyed on these fishing trips. The families all belong to the Methodist Church. Orline, Marion and Clair play various musical instruments and often gather at the home of their parents to enjoy a musical hour or two with their father. Details of the Grill children are as follows:

1. Orline Faith Grill graduated from Granger township high school and then went to Akron where she took sewing lessons. She married Armin Pease, who moved from Cleveland to Coddingville in

Granger township about 1937, and also graduated from the Granger high school. He served for four years in the U.S. Army, 22 months of that time in Iceland. Orline has worked at the Ohio Match Co. in Wadsworth for about 15 years and Armin for the same company for about eight years, in their sheet metal department.

2. Marion Eleanor Grill was born on the farm of her parents. She went to Wadsworth to live with her grandparents, Jacob and Cora Derr, while she attended high school there. She has been employed at the Ohio Match Co. for many years. Her husband, Howard King, was born on a farm in Montville township, Medina county, and has been working in the maintenance division of the Chemical Plant of the B. F. Goodrich Company in Akron since 1937. He is now in charge of the pipe insulation department.

3. Clair Ervin Grill graduated from Granger high school and then enlisted in the Air Force for four years. Most of that time he was in Texas where he served as maintenance man on both gas and jet planes. He married Barbara Skala of Hinckley, who had been an office worker in Cleveland. They now live in part of the old Grill farm home with his parents and Clair works in the telephone installation department of the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. in Akron.

II. Earle Wearstler Derr was born on the farm at Boneta where he attended grade school, then graduated from the Sharon Center high school in 1907, Oberlin Academy, Oberlin, Ohio, in 1908, and Oberlin College in 1913 with a major in Chemistry. He taught the grade school at Boneta during the 1910-1911 school year at $40 per month to help pay the expenses of his junior and senior years at Oberlin. During the period from August 1st, 1913, to Oct. 1st, 1915, he worked in the Efficiency dept. of the Aluminum Co. of America.

He married Margaret Sweet, whose home was in Oberlin and who also graduated from the college there in 1913 with a major in German. Before her marriage she taught one year each in the high school at Dickinson Center, New York, and at Wells, New York, and later did substitute teaching in the Akron, Ohio schools. Her father, Edgar George Sweet graduated from Oberlin Conservatory in 1883 and taught piano and singing there for 38 years. Her mother, Leona Hottenstein Sweet, graduated from Oberlin Conservatory in 1884 and taught piano there for 16 years.

When Earle came back to Ohio in Sept. 1915 to be married, he obtained employment with the Miller Rubber Co. in Akron and worked there first in the Rate-Setting department, then as manager of the Salvage department and as assistant manager of the Special Goods Sales department, from Oct. 1st, 1915, until Oct. 1st, 1926. For the next seven years he worked for the Trump Bros. Rubber Co. and their successor, the R. C. A. Rubber Co. of Akron, as manager of their Special Goods sales department and during the years of 1928 and 1929 was also manager of their subsidiary reclaiming plant in Akron, The Rubber Recovery Company. Then for two years he operated a waterproofing sales store in Akron known as Waterlox of Eastern Ohio. That was discontinued during the depression era and he then worked as manager of Special Goods Sales department for the Seiberling Latex Products Co. of Barberton, Ohio, until the summer of 1938. That fall he and A. C. Cowles of Akron formed a partnership, Cowles-Derr Tire Service, in Rockford, Illinois, and operated that Hawkinson tire treading and new tire sales concern until it was sold to Harris Tire Co. of Rockford on Aug. 1st, 1953. He continued on with that

concern as manager of their tire recapping and repair department until November, 1957, when a heart attack made it advisable for him to retire from full time work. Since then he has been working for the Rockford Park District in Rockford during the summer months.

Both Earle and Margaret belong to the Presbyterian church and in 1959 joined the Blackhawk Trails Club which consists of about 200 members who enjoy outdoor life such as hiking, picnics, and canoeing. Earle's main hobby is fishing which he enjoys on the lakes of southern Wisconsin at every opportunity. He has been active in Red Cross work and a First Aid instructor since 1947. At present he is a member of its board of directors. He served from 1946 to 1950 on the Parking and Traffic committee of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. Margaret has worked as a proofreader at the local newspaper since 1948, and for several years has also been teaching ball-room dancing to individuals and small groups in a studio at home during the evenings. Their two children are:

1. Lawrence William Derr, who was born in Akron, attended Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio, where he graduated in 1934; Oberlin College, where he graduated with a sociology major in 1938; and Western Reserve University in Cleveland where he received his Master of Science degree in social administration.

   Then after working a year at Bethlehem Community Center in Chicago, Larry (as he is called) entered Y. M. C. A. work at the Chicago Irving Park branch in 1941 and has served since then in Pontiac, Mich., Kirkwood and St. Louis, Mo., Y.M.C.A.'s before going to his present location in Fort Wayne, Indiana where he is now executive Secretary of the Old Fort Branch. His career in the Y.M.C.A. was interrupted by the military draft from 1943 to 1946. He entered Civilian Public Service, an alternative service for conscientious objectors, working in national parks and forests, in a mental hospital and in relief work of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

   He married Frances Wentzel of Dayton, Ohio, who graduated from Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill., with a major in Religious Education. They are members of the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne where they are active in its choir, board of deacons, women's association, men's council, and church school. Both of their daughters, Marilyn and Barbara, were born in Kirkwood, Mo.

2. Marjorie Louise Derr was born in Akron, Ohio, graduated from West High school there in 1935, and from Oberlin College in 1939 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education. She went to Rockford, Illinois, in 1939 to live with her parents, and taught first grade in Montague school there for two years, then was married to the Reverend George Huntston Williams the following summer, and a few weeks after their marriage they left for Berkeley, California, to make their home.

   George was born in Huntsburg, Ohio, the son of Dr. David Rhys Williams and Lucy Pease Williams. His father was for many years the minister at the Unitarian Church in Rochester, N. Y. from which he retired in 1958. George received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Lawrence University, Canton, New York, in 1936;

his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Meadville Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois in 1939; and his Doctor of Theology degree from Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in 1946. He was ordained as a minister in both the Unitarian and Congregational churches in 1940 and became assistant pastor of the Church of the Christian Union, Unitarian, Rockford, Illinois that same year.

Following his marriage in 1941 he accepted a call to teach church history at the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California, where he remained for six years. Then in 1947 he joined the faculty of Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Mass., and was made full professor of Church History there in 1955. During the 1960-61 school year he will be Fulbright Professor of Theology at the University of Strasbourg in France but following that will return to Harvard to resume his teaching there. George is also now writing a church history text book that will be published by Harper Bros. Publishing Co. in 1961.

The family normally spend their vacations at their summer home near Gilmanton, New Hampshire. That house was built in 1780 and still has the five large fireplaces that were originally its only source of heat. Their daughter Portia was born in Berkeley, California and entered University of New Hampshire as a freshman in the fall of 1960. Jeremy was also born in Berkeley and entered Groton Academy, at Groton, Mass. in the fall of 1959. The two younger boys Jonathan and Roger accompanied their parents to France and are attending the French grade schools there during the school year of 1960-61.

III. Dwight Luther Derr was born on the farm of his parents and went to the Boneta school. After attending Sharon Center High School for three years he went to Medina High School and graduated in 1915. He then went to Ohio State University and graduated from its Dental College in June, 1920. That fall he opened his dental office at Five Points in Akron where he practiced until the fall of 1957, when he moved to his present office at 40 N. Frank Blvd. in the Fairlawn section of west Akron. He married Hazel Boise, a schoolmate at Boneta, whose father, Leroy Boise, grew up on a farm near Lodi, Ohio, and who remembers when our grandfather Jacob Derr operated his blacksmith shop in the town and lived in the stone house that once stood about a mile west near the present underpass of Route 42 and the B. and O. railroad.

Dwight and Hazel lived in Akron until 1938 when they purchased a 45 acre farm in Bath township about 10 miles northwest of the city, where they have lived ever since altho they have never operated the farm except for a good sized garden. They are active in the Bath Community church and the local garden club. Their main hobbies are traveling, photography and the annual fishing trips to Sandy Lake near Lakefield, Ontario, where they have been going for over thirty years. Dwight served on the Bath township school board for several years and as its president the last year before he retired. Their three boys were all born in Akron and graduated from the Bath High School. They are

1. Kenneth Leroy Derr, who attended Fenn College in Cleveland during the winter of 1942-43 and then served in the Army Medical Corps as Medical and Dental Technician for two years at Greenbriar

Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. For the next five years he went to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, graduating from the School of Architecture in 1950. While in school there he married Lois Rhoades of Bath township, who after graduating from Bath High School attended Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, for one year, then graduated from Akron University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a major in music. She has taught music part and full time in the public schools at Clinton, Michigan (while Kenneth was in school at Ann Arbor) and at Greensburg, Akron and Wadsworth, Ohio.

For several years after he graduated from the University of Michigan Kenneth worked in the offices of an architect in Akron, then in 1954 he became a partner in the firm of Derr and Stuber with offices at 42 S. Frank Boulevard in Akron (about two blocks from the dental office of his father). They live in Wadsworth, where Kenneth serves on the city planning commission and also has been on the board of directors of the Medina County Fair Association for several years. Their main hobbies are fishing (mostly at Sandy Lake in Ontario, Canada), traveling, and taking pictures. They have two daughters.

2. Paul Jacob Derr attended Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio, for one school year (1947-48) and while there met his future wife, Erma Suczany of Poland, Ohio who graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 1951. They had been married the previous summer and Paul then started to work for the M. O'Neil Co. Department Store in Akron. He joined the Marines soon after Erma graduated and served for two years in the Quartermasters department at Camp Lejeune and at Cherry Point, North Carolina. Erma accompanied him and worked in drug stores in the vicinity of the camps during the time he was in service.

After his discharge they returned to Akron where Paul again worked in various departments of the M. O'Neil Co. for about three years. He then went to Erie, Pennsylvania, to work for Trask's Department Store as a buyer and remained there until Oct. 1959. At that time he and a business friend in Erie left for Florida, where they started the interior decorating firm of DeGar Interiors, Inc. in the Charlotte Shopping Center at Punta Gorda. During the years since graduating from Ohio Northern University, Erma has taken the examinations and obtained her license as a registered pharmacist in the states of Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Florida, and has worked at her profession in each of the cities where they have lived. Shortly after hurricane Donna passed over Punta Gorda in Sept. 1960, Paul and Erma started construction of a new home there that will overlook Charlotte Harbor. The house and furnishings where they were living at the time were damaged to the extent of about $5600. but neither of them suffered any personal injury. Both are ardent fisherman and their main hobby is exploring and fishing in the many bays and waterways in the vicinity of Charlotte Harbor.

3. Carl Thomas Derr (known as Tom) was prominent in high school athletics, playing on the Bath football, basketball and baseball teams, and was selected as a member of the honorary all-county

football team. He received a scholarship to Case Technical School in Cleveland, played on their football team, and graduated as a Civil Engineer in 1956. His schooling at Case was interrupted by two years of service in the Army Ordnance Department at the Aberdeen, Maryland, Proving Grounds, most of the time as an instructor. Just before entering that service he married Carla Roebuck, a schoolmate at Bath High School who had attended Baldwin Wallace College at Berea, Ohio, for two school years - 1949-1951. She is a proficient swimmer and has taught swimming in Y.W.C.A. pools on several occasions.

They lived for one year in Wilmington, Delaware, where Tom worked in the Maintenance Engineering Department at the DuPont Company. They then moved to Wooster, Ohio, where he has been employed ever since by Shaffer and Parrot of Wooster and Mansfield, Ohio, who are highway engineer specialists. In the spring of 1960, Tom and Carla moved to a home about two miles west of Wadsworth from where he drives to work at Wooster. Their oldest daughter Tama Leigh Derr was born in Akron while both Thomas Hans Derr and Kristan Lynn Derr were born in Wooster. Tom's main hobby is hunting and fishing.

IV. Glenna Eileen Derr was born at Boneta, Ohio, and attended school there until her parents moved to Wadsworth in 1918. She graduated from Wadsworth High School and then attended Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, and Wooster College at Wooster, Ohio during her freshman, sophomore and junior years after which she completed a business college course at Akron and then graduated from Kent State University, Kent, Ohio in 1933, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education. She taught in the Wadsworth Junior High School from September 1933 until February 1945. She then devoted her full time to family duties and the care of her parents until she started teaching again in 1957 at Isham (Wadsworth township centralized) Grade School in Wadsworth. In the fall of 1960 she went back to the Junior High School, dividing her time between the teaching of English and Social Studies and the duties of Guidance Director. She is also taking courses at Kent State University as time permits toward her Masters Degree.

Her husband, Maurice Laubenthal was born in Liege, Belgium, on the day that country was invaded by the Germans in the First World War. Up until the time he came to this country at the age of six with his parents, the food supplies in Belgium were extremely limited. To get the minimum quantities of milk and vegetables on which to live his mother often had to raid the nearby farmers' fields and even milk their cows at night. His father first worked in this country in the coal mines near Steubenville, Ohio. In 1927 the family moved to Akron where he worked for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company until his death in 1940. Maurice's mother and step-father, John DeCeuster, live in Massillon, Ohio, where he works in one of the steel mills.

From December, 1943, until October 1960, Maurice was employed by Motor Cargo, Inc., one of the larger freight trucking concerns in this country. During those seventeen years he worked in the Akron terminal and offices as rate clerk, chief traffic clerk, assistant traffic manager, system traffic manager, terminal office manager, and terminal manager. But the company was sold to Consolidated Freightways, Inc. of Portland, Oregon, and shortly after the actual merger took place Maurice left their employ to go with Direct Transportation, Inc. of Hamilton, Ohio, as their terminal manager in Akron. Both Maurice and Glenna love to

fish and every year since their marriage have spent their vacation at Sandy Lake near Peterborough, Ontario. They also use their 14 ft. boat and outboard motor for week-end fishing trips in Lake Erie. Their three children, Maureen, Karen, and Gary, were born in Wadsworth, Ohio.

1960 Addresses of the descendants of Jacob and Rachel Derr.
(Unmarried children living with parents assumedly have the same address.)

A. FIANNA DERR ORTON Family.
I. George B. Orton - (deceased)
1. Fay W. Orton - 267 Maylawn Ave., Wadsworth, Ohio.
1-a. Clara Orton (Mrs. F.G.)Woodford - 1023 N. Howard St., Akron, Ohio.
2. Ruth Orton(Mrs. Robert)Horner - 279 Bergey St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
2-a. Donald F. Rufener - Rt. #1, Box 12, Medina, Ohio.
2-b. Lloyd E. Rufener - Rt. #1, Box 263, Medina, Ohio.
2-c. Anna Jean Rufener - N.P. Box 444, Nassau, Bahama Islands.
2-d. Ethel Mae Rufener(Mrs. Herman)Likens - 216 Water St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
II. Wm. Burt Orton - (deceased)
1. Guy E. Orton - Wood and 2nd St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
2. Mary Orton (Mrs. Harry) Renner - Sharon Center, Ohio.
2-a. Virginia Renner(Mrs. Lawrence)Neff - Rt. #1, Box 196, Wadsworth, Ohio.
2-b. Dorothy Renner(Mrs. Sanford)King - Sharon Center, Ohio.
2-c. Harry B. Renner - Rt. #1, Box 193, Wadsworth, Ohio.
2-d. William G. Renner - Rt. #1, Box 194, Wadsworth, Ohio.
2-e. Louise Renner(Mrs. Richard)Baltz - Rt. #6, Fairlawn, Covington, W. Va.
3. Grace Orton(Mrs. Hubert)Winland - 3621 Johnothan Way, North Highlands, Cal.
3-a. Robert W. Winland - 3621 Johnathan Way, North Highlands, Cal.
3-b. Lewis Winland - Rt. #1, Box 32, Wadsworth, Ohio.
3-c. Hubert D. Winland - 3100 Michigan, Midland, Texas.
3-d. Alan T. Winland - 1404 Maryguard, Akron, 12, Ohio.
III. Harvey L. Orton - (deceased)
Mrs. Harvey L. Orton - 259 N. Lyman St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
1. William Orton - 1494 Marion Avenue Rd., Mansfield, Ohio.

B. HENRY FRANCIS (FRANK) DERR Family.
I. Vera Derr(Mrs. David R.)Jones - 4138 E. 146th St., Cleveland, 28, Ohio.
1. F. David Jones - - 1288 Hall Ave., Lakewood, 7, Ohio.
2. Lois Jones(Mrs. Donald E.)Ormond - 2-A Sunnyside, Lawrence, Kansas.
II. Gladys Derr(Mrs. James)Brill - 6517 Third Ave., S., St. Petersburg, Florida.
1. Beulah Brill(Mrs. Gillis)Olsen - 6517 Third Ave., S., St. Petersburg, Florida
2. James C. Brill - 917 Caroline Ave., Kannapolis, No. Carolina.
III. Orline Derr(Mrs. C. W.)Gilliard - 427 W. Fremont St., Fostoria, Ohio.
1. Joyce Gilliard(Mrs. Earl A.)Bassett - 4032 Happy Valley Rd., Lafayette, Cal.
2. Wanda Gilliard(Mrs. John E.)Rapp - 4034 Happy Valley Rd., Lafayette, Cal.

C. HETTIE DERR NICHOLLS Family
I. Charles R. Nicholls - (deceased).
1. Wayne Nicholls (deceased) Mrs. Wayne Nicholls - Blue Mound, Ill.
1-a. Janet Nicholls(Mrs. Dean)Damery - Blue Mound, Ill.
1-b. Mary Nicholls(Mrs. Danny)Byard - 1035-B Elm St., Fayetteville, N. Carolina
2. Mary Nicholls(Mrs. Herbert)Harbarger -(deceased.)
2-a. Patricia Harbarger(Mrs. Tom)Deburn - 5 Cedar St.,Willoway Terrace, Arlington Heights, Illinois
3. Lynn O. Nicholls - Blue Mound, Illinois
3-a. Barbara Nicholls(Mrs. Marion)Fiorillo - 603 S. Elm St., Champaign, Ill.
4. Ruby Nicholls(Mrs. Leonard)Naber - Blue Mound, Ill.
II. Mary Nicholls (Mrs. Bert) Dillehunt - (deceased).
1. Harold Q. Dillehunt - - 1664 Oak Ave., Menlo Park, California
1-a. Lucy Dillehunt(Mrs. Richard)Kahlstrom - 1920 Langdon Farm Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio.

1960 Addresses - continued.

2. Dorothy Dillehunt(Mrs. Scott)Hertenstein - 17110 Wilton Pl., Torrance, Cal.
   2-a. Joan Hertenstein(Mrs. Roy)Decker - (address not available).
3. Lucy Dillehunt(Mrs. William)Contento - 199 Hudson Ave., Delmar, N. Y.
4. Helen Dillehunt(Mrs. Anthony)Garrick - 1831 E. Coolidge St., Phoenix, Ariz.
5. Richard M. Dillehunt - 620 W. Dobbin Rd., Phoenix, Ariz.
6. Donald M. Dillehunt - 1-N-612 Newton Ave., Glen Ellyn, Ill.

III. Claire V. Nicholls - Blue Mound, Illinois.
1. Walter Nicholls - (deceased) Mrs. Walter Nicholls, Macon, Illinois.
   1-a. Crystal Nicholls(Mrs. David)Trueblood - 2036 Elwin Rd., Decatur, Ill.
   1-b. Cheri Nicholls - 934 W. North St., Decatur, Ill.
2. Helen Nicholls(Mrs. Donald) King - Blue Mound, Ill.
   2-a. Gene King - Sunset Drive, Clinton, Ill.
   2-b. Jack King - Macon, Ill.
   2-c. Rex King - Blue Mound, Ill.
3. Dale G. Nicholls - 119 Taylor Court, Columbia, Missouri.

D. GEORGE MANDUS DERR Family

I. Alice Derr(Mrs. Frank)Hastings - 214 W. George Mason Rd., Falls Church, Virginia
1. Marjorie Hastings(Mrs. E.D.)Bingham - 214 W. George Mason Rd., Falls Church,V
2. Mildred Hastings (Mrs. A.W.)Smeins - 11722 Karen Lane, Hopkins, Minn.
3. Lewis D. Hastings - 5222 Nutmeg St., San Diego, California
4. Carol Joy Hastings - Mission Bungalow, Kalvan, Nasik District, India.
5. Muriel Hastings(Mrs. John)Bittenbender - 7404 Fairfax Parkway, Alexandria,Va.
6. Delbert C. Hastings - 4751 Dupont Ave., S., Minnespolis, Minnesota.
7. Maurice M. Hastings - 1326 Las Lomas, Yuma, Arizona.

II. Olive Derr (Mrs. M.O.) Johnson - Pierpont, S. Dakota. (summer)
- Altamonte Cottages, Altamonte, Florida (winter)
1. B. Thayne Johnson - Rt. #2, Box 207, Annadale, Virginia

III. Jeanette Derr (Mrs. Alvin) Lidel - Pierpont, S. Dakota.
1. E. Clare Lidel - Rt. #2, Box 549A, Mound, Minnesota.
2. Philip D. Lidel - 205 S. Jackson St., Pierre, S. Dakota.

IV. Frances Derr(Mrs. H.L.) Pfeiffer - 8635 W. Leahy Rd., Portland, 25, Oregon.
1. Kedric O. Pfeiffer - 12027 - 75th Ave., South Seattle, Washington.
2. Corrine Pfeiffer(Mrs. Gordon)Tuttle - Rt. #2, Box 255, Troutdale, Oregon.

V. H. George Derr - 509 S. Grangeville Blvd., Hanford, California.
1. Naomi Derr(Mrs. Lloyd)Pfander - 804 E. Myrtle, Hanford, California.
2. Beverly Derr(Mrs. Rev. Orville)Kelley - 7012 N. Atlantic, Spokane, Washington

E. JOSEPHINE (JOSIE) DERR WAGNER Family.

I. Benn A. Wagner - - Rt. #3, Bemidji, Minnesota.
1. Kenneth A. Wagner - - Box 28, Brainard, Minnesota.
   1-a. Roger Wagner - 307 Florence St., Brainard, Minnesota.
   1-b. David Wagner - Box #28, Brainard, Minnesota.
2. Donald M. Wagner - Rt.#3, Bemidji, Minnesota.
3. Gerald Wagner - Rt. #6, Brainard, Minnesota.

II. William H. Wagner - 500 County Rd., #73, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
1. Virginia Wagner (Mrs. Gordon)Bowers - 17 Lakeview Drive, Excelsior, Minn.
2. Betty Wagner(Mrs. L.R.)Ladouceur - 1022 Eden Drive, Neenah, Wisconsin.
3. John W. Wagner - 4964 Turtle Lane, West, St. Paul, Minnesota.

III. Gladys Wagner(Mrs. Bert)Fuller - Rt. #3, Bemidji, Minnesota.
1. Rev. Ronald W. Fuller - 10 Henderson Rd., Jardine's Point, Hongkong, Asia.
2. Bruce A. Fuller - 1556 Spring Brook Rd., Walnut Creek, California.
3. Rev. Dwight A. Fuller - Cary, Illinois.
4. Lois E. Fuller(Mrs. Wayne L.)Born - Yellow Knife,N.W.T., via Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
5. Rev. J. Wayne Fuller - 4837 Minnesota Ave., Fair Oaks, California.

1960 Addresses - continued

IV. Richard D. Wagner - (deceased)
1. Donna Wagner(Mrs. Edward)Hanger - 125 West Red Wing, Duluth, Minnesota.

F. JACOB HAMILTON DERR (deceased)
I. Ruth Derr(Mrs. Cleber E.) Grill - Rt. #2, Box 337, Medina, Ohio.
1. Orline Grill(Mrs. Armin)Pease - 146 - 3rd St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
2. Marion Grill (Mrs. Howard)King - 495 Broad St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
3. Clair Grill - Rt. #2, Box 337, Medina, Ohio.
II. Earle W. Derr - 1043 Haskell Ave., Rockford, Illinois.
1. Lawrence W. Derr - 1304 Curdes Ave., Ft. Wayne, 3, Indiana.
2. Marjorie L. Derr(Mrs. George H.)Williams - 82 Bartlett Ave., Arlington,Mass.
III. Dr. Dwight L. Derr - 1489 N. Hametown Rd., Akron, 13, Ohio.
1. Kenneth L. Derr - 328 Broad St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
2. Paul J. Derr - Gulfview Rd., Punta Gorda, Florida.
3. C. Thomas Derr - Box 134 E, Rt. #2, Wadsworth, Ohio.
IV. Glenna Derr(Mrs. Maurice)Laubenthal - 187 Baldwin St., Wadsworth, Ohio.

* *

The number of descendants of Jacob and Rachel Beck Derr as listed in this history and genealogy of the family consists of the following -

6	children
23	grandchildren
65	great-grandchildren
135	great-great-grandchildren
43	great-great-great-grandchildren
272	total who are scattered in 19 states and four foreign countries.

* *

SUPPLEMENT NO. 1 of March 15, 1962

TO THE GENEALOGY AND HISTORY OF THE FAMILY OF JACOB AND RACHEL DERR.

It has now been nearly 1 1/2 years since the above DERR FAMILY HISTORY was written: A few errors and omissions were reported and others noticed after some of the copies were sent out. Those corrections and additions along with the subsequent changes reported are included in this supplement to bring it up to date. It cannot be considered complete since details have not been received about all of the families. It should be inserted in your original copy before becoming misplaced. Additional supplements will depend on how many of you voluntarily report the new facts and changes.

For the first time since 1957 more names of the 23 grandchildren of Rachel and Jacob Derr must be added to the seven who have been taken in death. Vera Derr Jones died July 5, 1961 and Claire V. Nicholls on Dec. 24, 1961.

While in Ohio last December brother Dwight took me to Medina where we left the framed Baptismal and Birth Certificate of grandfather Jacob Derr (see pages 3, 10, and 11 of the Family History) at the Medina County Historical Society. The custodian, Miss Florence Phillips, who about 45 years previously had been one of Dwight's Medina High School teachers, was very grateful for this since it is the first such item they have received.

Grace Orton (Mrs. Hubert E.) Winland has very generously donated for the museum collection the 28-page school writing copy-book of grandmother Rachel Beck Derr written in German script 125 years ago. The top line on each page is apparently the teacher's specimen under which are 12 duplicate lines written by Rachel Beck. The third page is filled with lines reading (translated) "Pennsylvania North America 1837". Also in two other places are written "Rachel Beck 1837". That indicates it was written when she was 19 years old and probably attending school in what was then Northampton County. What later became Mahoning Township in Carbon County where the George Beck farm was located (see page 13 of the Family History) was part of Northampton County until March 13, 1843 (see page 5).

German script is much more difficult to translate than the printed letters and we are still trying to get the first line of each page translated. Before it goes to the Medina Museum we hope to find some inexpensive method of permanently covering each page with a transparent protection. The entire original cover is gone and the pages frayed at the edges but the writing is still quite legible so prevention from further deterioration is important.

Many thanks to those who have furnished the information necessary to make up this supplement. Greetings and Best Wishes to all of you.

Earle W. Derr

March 15, 1962
1043 Haskell Ave.,
Rockford, Illinois

SUPPLEMENT NO. 1 of March 15, 1962.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO BE MADE IN ORIGIONAL COPY.

Page No.
14 - (4) - George Mandus Derr - b. 11-17-1852. Add -"in W. P. Twp."
51 - II - Lulu B. Fitzsimmons, wife of Wm. H. Wagner, was born 11-12-1888. Their daughter (2) Betty Wagner was born 10-8-1920.
52 - III - J. Bert Fuller, husband of Gladys Wagner, was born 10-8-1890. Their granddaughter (4)-(4) Mary L. Born, was born 11-12-1958
64 - (4th paragraph) - Urias Wearstler died 1-25-1926. Sarah Wall Wearstler was born 1-9-1839, married 9-18-1861, died 4-15-1928. Isaac Wall was born 4-18-1813. Susannah Brouse Wall was born 10-20-1812. Isaac Wall's mother, Catherine Baughman Wall, was probably related to Seth Baughman, mentioned on page 15 in the fourth paragraph.

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ADDRESS CHANGES AS OF MARCH 15, 1962.

73 - A - FIANNA DERR ORTON FAMILY.
II - (1) Guy E. Orton - 165 Second St., Wadsworth, Ohio
II - (3) Grace Orton (Mrs. Hubert) Winland, 4926 E. Marshall Place, Tulsa, 15, Oklahoma.
III - (1) William Orton, 1552 Marion Ave. Rd., Mansfield, Ohio.

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73 - B - HENRY FRANCIS (FRANK) DERR FAMILY.
I - Vera Derr (Mrs. David R.) Jones, Deceased 7-5-1961.
I - (2) Lois Jones (Mrs. Donald) Ormond, 804 Arkansas, Lawrence, Kans.
II - Gladys Derr (Mrs. James A.) Brill, c/o Silk Restorium, 2135 - 40th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, Florida.
III - (1) Joyce Gilliard (Mrs. Earl) Bassett, 344 Rheem Blvd., Apt. 4, Moraga, California.
III - (2) Wanda Gilliard (Mrs. John) Rapp, 3793 Sundale Rd., Lafayette, California, or 427 W. Fremont St., Fostoria, Ohio.

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74 - C - HETTIE DERR NICHOLLS FAMILY.
III - Claire V. Nicholls, Deceased 12-24-1961.

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74 - D - GEORGE MANDUS DERR FAMILY.
I - Alice Derr (Mrs. Frank) Hastings, 322 James Ave., Falls Church, Virginia.
III - (2) Philip D. Lidel, 1508 Summit, Pierre, South Dakota.

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74 - E - JOSEPHINE (JOSIE) DERR WAGNER FAMILY.
I - Benn A. Wagner, 207 Florence St., Brainerd, Minnesota.
I - (1) Kenneth A. Wagner, Mill Ave., Brainerd, Minnesota.
I - (1)-(1-a) Roger Wagner, 207 Florence St., Brainerd, Minnesota.
I - (1)-(1-b) David Wagner, 1202 N.E. 15th Ave., Brainerd, Minnesota.
I - (2) Donald Wagner, 818 S. 3rd St., Bemidji, Minnesota.
I - (3)-(1) Kathy Wagner (Mrs. Harley) Doubet, Rt. #1, Hanna City, Illinois
III - (3) Rev. Dwight Fuller, 1158 Holly Lane, Deerfield, Illinois
III - (5) Rev. J. Wayne Fuller, 40525 Revere St., Hemet, California.

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75 - F - JACOB HAMILTON DERR FAMILY.
I - (2) Marian Grill (Mrs. Howard) King, 141 Third St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
I - (3) Clair Grill, 146 Third St., Wadsworth, Ohio.
III - (1) Kenneth L. Derr, Rt. 3, Box 277, Dale Drive, Wadsworth, Ohio.
III - (2) Paul J. Derr, Box 481, Gulfview Rd., Punta Gorda, Florida.
III - (3) C. Thomas Derr, 173 Simcox St., Wadsworth, Ohio.

SUPPLEMENT NO. 1 of March 15, 1962.

BIRTHS - MARRIAGES - DEATHS - AND OTHER CHANGES.

Page No. FIANNA DERR ORTON FAMILY.

21-A-II-(2)-(2)-(1) Dell King was married 8-5-1960 to Lona Brown, born 7-24-1942. Their son Richard Wayne King was born 6-8-1961.

II-(2)-(3)-(1) James Renner was married 4-7-1960 to Janet Snyder, born 8-31-1941. Their daughter Jean Marie Renner was born 2-5-1961.

24 - II-(3) - Grace Orton (Mrs. Hubert E.) Winland and husband have purchased a home in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they are now permanently located.

HENRY FRANCIS (FRANK) DERR FAMILY.

26 - I - Vera Derr (Mrs. David) Jones died unexpectedly in her sleep at her Cleveland, Ohio, home and was buried near there in Crown Hill Cemetery.

III - (1) - The husband of Joyce Gilliard, Earl A. Bassett, died on 12-15-1960 after several weeks of hospital confinement.

35 - (1) Joyce Gilliard (Mrs. Earl A.) Bassett took over the interests of her husband in the wholesale dress partnership after his death and moved her office to Room 433 in the same Pacific Bldg. She does considerable traveling as representative for the "Tabak" line of sportswear and casual dresses, and reports that she is doing well. So as to live closer to her office, she sold her home in Lafayette and moved into an apartment in Moraga.

35 - (2) John E. (Jack) Rapp, husband of Wanda Gilliard Rapp is at present seriously considering a change of occupation that would require their moving back to the middle west. With both their present address and that of Wanda's mother, Orline, listed on page #2, it would be advisable until further information is received to send any correspondence for the Rapp family to the Fostoria address from where it will be properly forwarded.

HETTIE DERR NICHOLLS FAMILY.

37 - III-(1)-(2) Rosemary L. Dillehunt was married 11-17-1961 to Anthony Ford.

38 - III-(3)-(2) Roger Contento was married 11-25-1961 to Ruth Rekkner.

38 and 41 - IV Claire V. Nicholls died 12-24-1961 at his home due to a kidney and blood disease after an illness of 18 months. He was buried in Bethel Methodist Cemetery near Blue Mound where his father and mother and other close relatives are buried. His wife, Maude, plans to continue living in the same farm home (remodeled) east of Blue Mound in which they had lived together all the 55 years of their married life.

GEORGE MANDUS DERR FAMILY.

43 - I-(6)-(3) A son, Andrew Blair Hastings, was born 1-28-1961 to Delbert and Ellen Hastings.

I-(7)-(3) A daughter, Laureen Lee Hastings, was born 3-7-1961 to Maurice and Norma Hastings.

47 & 47 - I-(2)-(1) Janet Smein entered the University of Minnesota as a freshman in the fall of 1961.

SUPPLEMENT NO. 1 of March 15, 1962.

Page No.

JOSEPHINE (JOSIE) DERR WAGNER FAMILY.

51 - I-(3)-(1) - Kathy Wagner was married 3-25-1961 to Harley Doubet, born 1-19-1941, who is a breeder of hybrid corn. Their home is about 10 Mi. west of Peoria on Rt. 1, Hanna City, Illinois.

I-(3)-(5) - A son, Benn Aaron Wagner was born on 12-6-1960 to Gerald and Anne Wagner.

57 - Paragraph #4 - After "The Great River Country News" paper was sold, Benn Wagner rented his home in Bemidji to the new owner and on Nov. 1, 1961 moved into an upstairs apartment in the home of his grandson, Roger Wagner, in Brainerd.

60 - - (5) - Rev. J. Wayne Fuller moved to Hemet, California (about 80 miles north of San Diego) in March 1961 to become pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church there.

59 - - III - Paragraph #5 - Gladys and Bert Fuller have done much traveling since August 21, 1961 when they left on a 6-week trip by train and bus for a visit with their daughter Lois Born and family in Yellowknife, N.W.T., Canada, nearly 2000 miles north-west of Bemidji. Then on Nov. 4th they started on another trip to Brainerd, Minneapolis, Rockford, Deerfield, Ill., visited their son Dwight for two weeks, and on to Hemet, Calif., staying with their son Wayne until about Mar. 1st. During March they will be in Walnut Creek, Calif. with their son Bruce and will probably get back to their home in Bemidji late in April.

JACOB HAMILTON DERR FAMILY.

62 - I - (3) Clair Grill's wife, Barbara, died 6-26-1961 after a lingering illness and was buried in the Coddingville Cemetery about 1/2 mile west of the farm home in which they had lived with his parents. Since then Clair has been making his home in Wadsworth with his sister Orline.

70 - (2) Paul Derr sold his interest in DeGar Interiors, Inc. and on Feb. 1, 1962, joined the staff of First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Charlotte County, Florida, as vice-president in charge of Advertising and Public Relations. He has been president of the Punta-Gorda-Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce since elected to that office in 1961.

70 - (3) Tom Derr changed both address and employer in 1961, moving into the city of Wadsworth and now works for Beiswenger and Hoch Engineering Association in their Akron office.

71 - IV - Glenna Derr Laubenthal's husband, Maurice, has changed employer and since Sept. 1961 has been assistant manager of the Akron terminal of Transamerican Freight Lines whose main office is in Detroit, Mich.

31

Reliable information obtained during the past three years indicates that some changes and additions should be made in pages five through fourteen of the Derr Family History as previously given.

It is now certain that Christina (last name still unknown) was the wife of Johannes and the mother of Johann Nicolaus Dürr (pages 10+14) and that they attended the Grimville New Bethel Zion Church that was first dedicated on 9-8-1761. That was replaced by a second church, the cornerstone of which was laid on 5-30-1803 with Johannes Dürr one of the four men on its building committee. This church, still standing in 1923, was located at Grimville, Greenwich Twp., Berks Co., Pa., which township adjoins Weisenberg Twp., Lehigh Co., on the west and stands about six miles southwest of Weisenberg Church and cemetery.

The book, "Lutherans in Berks County, Pennsylvania", copyrighted by H. S. Kidd in 1923 and published by the Reading (Pa.) Council of Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania, states on page 111 that Rev. Daniel Lohman and Rev. John Knoske were pastors of the above Grimville Church between 1803 and 1839.

Since Rev. John Knoske baptized Jacob Dürr, born in Weisenberg Twp. on 5-20-1813 as stated on page 10 of our Derr Family History, with Johannes Dürr, a widower and the paternal grandfather, as godfather, it is evident that Christina Dürr, the grandmother, had died sometime between 7-27-1772, when her son Johann Nicolaus was born, and that baptismal date of 5-28-1813. But where the baptism took place or the exact date of her death is not known at this time.

We can now be certain that Johann Nicolaus Dürr was born 7-27-1772 instead of 7-27-1779 as is given in the Derr Family History, and corresponding corrections should be made on page 7 and 14. The dates on his cemetery stone (now broken), as shown by pictures taken in 1966, verify this and his name there is given as Johann Nicolaus Derr. He apparently went by the name of Nicholas or Nicolaus during most of his adult life.

Seven of the nine children that we are told were born to him by his second wife, Elizabeth Billman Derr, during their 50 years of married life are listed in the Reformed Church Records in Fackenthal Library of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa. Their names and birth dates are (1) Abia - 3-25-1814; (2) Lydia - 3-20-1817; (3) Jeremias - 4-14-1818; (4) Margaretha - 11-16-1819; (5 and 6) twins, Esther and Elizabeth - 1-28-1821; and (7) Anna - 3-9-1823. The stone markers of the twins, Esther, who died in 1842, and Elizabeth, in 1855, now stand beside those of their parents in the old cemetery of the Weisenberg Church. All the above seven children would be half-brothers and sisters of my grandfather, Jacob Derr. But at present the names of any other of the fifteen children born to Johann Nicolaus Derr by his two wives (page 7 of the Derr Family History) are unknown.

1043 Haskell Ave.
Rockford, Ill. 61103

Earle W. Derr
March 10, 1967